

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011

Volume 19, Number 1



Henri II – Louis XIV – Charles IX

DOUZAIN / SOL

Featured in this issue

- Massachusetts "Trees"
- Connecticut Coppers and Glass
- Crosby's Dickeson
- NJ Detectorist Finds
- Three for One (French Corner)
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The C4 Newsletter

A quarterly publication of

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.

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Volume 19, Number 1

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Jim Rosen)

As I write this President's message, the snow continues to fall here in Connecticut, the most recent storm having dumped 26 inches of the white stuff on us, but living in a condo makes that monthly payment all worthwhile.

As you will see, there is a lot to talk to you about since my last message and I will try to keep this report on the health of our club to a minimum. First off, I am still enjoying my new job, although the emails tend to be overwhelming sometimes. You have probably noticed some new sections in our Newsletter, one by Wayne Sbelby on "Dug Finds" which I'm sure you all will find as interesting as I did. Dug finds tell us so much about colonial history, for they tell us what coins were used in our colonies, where they were used and how common were they used. The quality of the find in this case is not half as important as the find itself and in what context the coin was found.

A new section on Auctions involving Colonial Coins and Paper Money, initiated by John Agre of Coin Rarities Online will scan the landscape of auctions and keep us up to date with what is happening in the auction arena of colonial coin and colonial paper money. This column will appear with each issue of the Newsletter and authored by a different person. The summer issue column will be written by Richard August, followed by John Kraljevic, and then Mike Wierzb.

Our Life Membership is alive and well, applicants need to be members for two years in good standing and be approved, by a majority of the board of directors. The cost is twenty-five times the present yearly dues of \$25, coming to \$625. Not a bad deal for the 18 year old colonial enthusiast.

C4 now has our own Facebook (FB) Page. This is monitored by our own resident dentist, Bijan Anvar. He can help you not only with the FB page, but can do that root canal for you as well online, not easy but he has the software to do it. This FB site is drawing new collectors to the site and with the links we have, can direct those who are interested to our web page.

As I am sure you all know, McCaully and Grellman will not be doing our auction this year after many years of producing great auctions. Since my last report, I went to the FUN show in Tampa during the first weekend in January and I am in discussions with Stack's-Bowers to run our 2011 Auction on November 12, 2011. We are hoping to have an Americana-like sale which will include not only colonial coins but also colonial paper money and colonial ephemera. However, as the merger of Stack's with Bowers and Merena is in the process of evolving, it is possible that we might not have an auction this year due to many factors associated with the merger. We might have to wait till 2012 to properly prepare for an "Americana" auction. At the time I am writing this, no contract has been signed for the coming year. I will certainly know the disposition of our auction situation by the Summer *Newsletter*. Also, we are planning that the auction, either in 2011 or 2012, will be opened to the general public with internet bidding and phone

bidding. This scenario will certainly increase the quality of our consignments. To address our perennially donated lots, we are planning to have, at the beginning of our Friday night educational meeting, a small auction of donated lots with the proceeds going to C4. So, if you have a coin or other interesting colonial related material that you want to donate to the club, contact Jack Howes, National Vice President, who is in charge of the donated lots auction. Of course, your donation is tax deductible.

On a more somber note, the recent passing of Steve Tanenbaum and Joe Lasser has precipitated the Board of Directors to established Memorial and Honorial Funds into which donations can be made in memory of a person or in honor of an occasion. Currently we have an Educational Fund and a Library Fund into which donations can be made. A committee made up of myself, Jack Howes, the National Vice President and another board member, in this case Buell Ish, will determine how these funds are to be distributed. Currently we plan on giving money from the Educational Fund in Memory of Rob Retz to the ANA to fund a scholarship in the Young Numismatist Program which will allow an individual to take the Colonial Course at the ANA in Colorado Springs this summer. The Scholarship covers travel, lodging, food and the 4 ½ day course itself. We feel that having these funds allows people to remember those who have passed and also to honor a special occasion. The distribution of these funds for educational purposes and to use for our library parallels our Vision Statement for the club...which in summary is to advance the knowledge of Colonial Numismatics.

Our Publications Committee is busy editing a new book by Syd Martin on Rosa Americana Coinage. Having edited this book, I feel it is a must for the colonial enthusiast. It is a wonderful book, well written and extremely well researched with a tremendous number of high quality photographs. Once out, hopefully by our convention or slightly before, this book can be purchased directly from Charlie Davis, a club member. In addition, a new book on New Jersey Coppers is getting ready for production in the near future.

There will be a C4 happening at the EAC convention this spring spearheaded by Buell Ish, Region 7 Vice President. You can email him for more details.

This is an exciting time for our club with new leadership on board, new books being published and new initiatives being discussed and implemented. As many of our members can't make the annual meeting, I will do my very best to keep you all updated as to what is going on within our club via our *Newsletter*. Remember, all the officers have their email addresses on our web site so you can contact us via email for any questions, or concerns that you may have.

Till we speak again, stay well and happy collecting.

WILLOWS, OAKS AND PINES – PALMETTOS, SHRUBS, AND CEDARS NAMING THE MASSACHUSETTS SILVER COINS

(Max B. Spiegel)

The Willow, Oak, and Pine Tree coins struck by the Massachusetts Bay colony in the latter half of the 17th century have become some of the most well known early American issues, with the Pine Tree shilling a strong candidate for the quintessential Colonial coin. Records of the General Court of Massachusetts Bay, however, contain scant references to the tree design and only mention the Pine Tree by name. While extensive research has provided a probable timeline of when these three types were issued, it is interesting that neither the records of the General Court nor the diary of John Hull indicate that the design of the tree was ever changed. Numismatists now refer to these three types as Willow, Oak, and Pine, but that was not always the case.

The first coins struck by the Massachusetts Bay colony were the simplistic NE shillings, sixpence, and threepence. The design of these coins—NE punched on one side and the denomination punched on the other—made it easy for unscrupulous people to clip pieces of metal from the edge without it being obvious. On October 19, 1652, only a few months after the act authorizing the NE coins, the General Court of Massachusetts Bay ordered that a new design be used:

ffor the prevention of washing or Clipping of all such peices of mony as shall be Coined wthin this Jurisdiction. It is Ordered by this Courte and the Authoritje thercof, that henceforth all peices of mony Coined as afore sajd sball have a double Ring on either side, with this Inscription—Massachusetts, and a tree in the Center on the one side, and New England and the yeere of our lord on the other side, according to this draught beere in the margent.

The draft in the margin appears to have been taken literally and closely resembles the appearance of the tree on the Willow Tree coinage. The General Court does not, however, call this tree a willow or any other name.¹

The first reference to the type of tree that appears on the Massachusetts silver coins came nearly thirty years later. In May 1680 a proposal to the General Court that the mint be made free referred to the Pine tree coins.² Earlier documents refer to Boston or Bay shillings, which could be any of the four types issued by Massachusetts. If the colonists noticed changes in the tree designs it was not documented. The Pine Tree coins were struck for the longest period of time and in the greatest numbers, so it is not surprising that these issues would have received more attention.

Ralph Thoresby, a wealthy antiquarian, appears to have been the first to notice that there were different trees on the Massachusetts silver coins. In his *Musaeum*

Thoresbyanum, a catalog of his collections (with an emphasis on coins) first published in 1713, he writes:

441. *Anno 1652.* There was Money coin'd in *New-England*, on one Side representing a Tree, inscried, MASATHVSETS. IN. Rev. NEW. ENGLAND: AN. DOM. (in the Field) 1652. XII. This is Octangular. 2 dwts. 18 gr. 442. Another the very same Inscription, hut different Tree. 443. A third is round, and considerably smaller, 444. the Sixpence hath the same Legend, save VI under the Tree, which is the same in every one of these, and in all that I have seen; the Reason whereof is said to be, that then alone they had Liberty of a Mint, so that whatever is coined since is privately done, and hears the same Date.³

Thoresby describes three distinct Massachusetts shillings in his collection. The two different trees he observed are almost certainly the Pine and Oak variants. Given the rarity of the Willow Tree shillings it is doubtful that he would have encountered a specimen. He describes a third Massachusetts shilling that is "considerably smaller," which could refer to a small planchet Pine Tree shilling or a clipped example. Since Thoresby does not indicate that there is a significant difference in weight, it seems likely that he observed both large and small planchet Pine Tree shillings. The weight that he provides, "2 dwts. 18 gr." (66 grains) is close to the official weight of 72 grains prescribed by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay.

It seems that Thoresby was unaware of the twopence and threepence Massachusetts silver coins. These coins were clearly not part of his collection, and though he states that the only date used by the colony was 1652, the Oak Tree twopence pieces were all dated 1662. It is interesting that Thoresby believes that the coins were all dated 1652 because that was the only time the colony had the "Liberty of a Mint" – in other words, the date was kept the same to elude the British authorities. Thoresby may have been the first to promulgate this once popular theory. Researchers now believe that the date refers to the year that the Massachusetts legislature authorized the coinage.

It appears that the earliest date at which the oak tree was associated with these coins was 1780, when Thomas Hollis' *Memoirs* were first published. He provides an undoubtedly exaggerated anecdote⁴ about the recently crowned Charles II's first encounter with the coinage of New England:

Sir Thomas Temple, brother to Sir William Temple, resided several years in New-England during the interregnum. After the restoration, when he returned to England, the King sent for him, and discoursed with him on the state of affairs in Massachusetts, and discovered great warmth against that colony. Among other things, he said they had invaded his prerogative by coining money. Sir Thomas, who was a real friend to the colony, told his majesty, that the colonists had but little acquaintance with law, and that they thought it no crime to make money for their own use. In the course of the conversation, Sir Thomas took some money out of his pocket, and

presented it to the king. On the one side of a coin was a pine tree, of that kind which is thick and bushy at the top. Charles asked what tree that was? Sir Thomas informed him it was the royal oak, which preserved the majesty's life. This account of the matter brought the king into good humour, and disposed him to bear what Sir Thomas had to say in their favour, calling them a "parcel of bonest dogs."

Sylvester Crosby (1875) clearly thought the story was a bit farfetched and commented (in brackets) "how did he ascertain the particular style of tree upon the coin which was shown in England more than one hundred years before?"⁵ This romantic, if not exactly truthful, story is probably the source of the "Oak Tree" name for these coins.

The 1815 publication of the *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, however, called the tree a "shrub" and did not mention the name "oak." The author writes, "The twopences have not a pine tree, but a sort of shrub, spreading like a thistle.... One three-penny piece in Mr. Shaw's collection has the shrub instead of the pine tree."⁶ For a period in the early-to-mid 19th century, the Oak Tree coins were referred to by both the "shrub" and "oak tree" monikers.

Interestingly, one writer in the July 1859 issue of the *Historical Magazine* uses both "cedar-tree" and "pine-tree" to describe the Pine Tree shillings. A response published in the October 1859 issue questions the name "cedar-tree" and explains the differences:

...if any case can be made out for the "cedar," it will be from the shape of the tree on this particular coin. But look at it. Does it most resemble a *cedar* or a *pine*? The branches of the cedar, if I mistake not, bend downward, forming a dense and matted covering. But the branches of the tree on the common shilling, are bent slightly upward, and the tree has, according to my idea, far more resemblance to a *pine* than a *cedar*. On the sixpence of the *same date*, the shape of the tree is *altogether different*, being composed simply of an upright trunk with two spreading branches, the tree having the form of a trident.

The author also notes that the 1858 "Priced Catalogue of Coins" by J. K. Curtis offers both a "Massachusetts *pine-tree* shilling" and a shrub shilling.

Several years later, W. Elliot Woodward noticed an altogether different type on tree, which he called a "palmetto" but still grouped it under the Oak Tree shilling.⁷ He describes lot 2524 of his March 20, 1864 sale as:

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652. The tree on this remarkable piece is quite unlike an oak, resembling more nearly a Palmetto tree. The legend on the obverse, is "*Masathset inn;*" on the rev. *New Glad Au Do Dom;* probably unique.

He provides additional information about the legends in his December 19, 1865 sale and lists another Palmetto shilling in his April 24, 1866 sale. The Willow tree name first appears in his October 28, 1867 sale of the Joseph J. Mickley collection:

2297. Shilling of 1652, called by Mr. Mickley the Willow Tree Shilling; very fine indeed, about as good as when struck, and an exceedingly rare type.

2298. Sixpence, 1652; tree of very curious design, somewhat like the last piece; legend on the obverse, MASATHUSSETS; inscription on the reverse equally singular; in perfectly fine condition, and probably unique.

As Sydney P. Noe (1943) relates, this catalog description would indicate that it was Mickley who came up with the name "Willow Tree" for the series.

The following year Bangs, Merwin & Co. featured "A full set of Oak Tree, or Shrub Money," which would indicate that the names were still used interchangeably. Nonetheless, in separate lots the catalog offers both an "Oak Tree Twopence" (lot 1901) and "Shrub Twopence" (lots 1902-4), implying that there is a difference between the two. All twopence were struck from the same set of dies so the catalog could not be referring to two different trees. The twopence varieties, however, do show varying degrees of die deterioration which may have caused the trees to look different to the cataloger. It is also possible that, if the names were always used interchangeably, the cataloger wanted to vary his descriptions.

The publication of Sylvester S. Crosby's *Early Coins of America* in 1875 likely standardized the names of the Massachusetts silver coins. He divided the coins into NE, Willow, Oak, and Pine series, the same way we divide it today. He mentions shrub several times in reference to the Oak Tree coinage, but he makes it clear that these coins feature an Oak Tree. His table of Oak Tree varieties also features a column for "Shrub" but this is something entirely different; he uses shrub to refer to the presence (or absence) of foliage at the base of the tree to the left and right of the trunk.

When the Massachusetts Bay legislature authorized silver coins in the latter half of the 17th century, there was no reference to the type of tree or trees that should appear in the design. Recent research indicates that the design of the tree was changed when a new coining technique or equipment was used, not to mark each renewal of the coinage contract. It took more than two centuries before numismatists settled on the names Willow, Oak, and Pine that we now use. Without contemporary documentation (save for the Pine Tree shillings), we must wonder whether the colonists actually perceived the trees as willows or oaks.

A Note on Ralph Thoresby's *Musaeum Thoresbyanum*

Ralph Thoresby (1658-1724) became well known for his history of Leeds (he is regarded as the first historian of Leeds) and his extensive collection of antiquities. He published two catalogs of his collection: *Musaeum Thoresbyanum* and *A Catalogue and*

Description of the Natural and Artificial Rarities in this Musaeum. The former focuses almost entirely on his coins, while the latter features the remainder of his collection.

As noted above, the *Musaeum Thoresbyanum* included a description of three Massachusetts shillings and a sixpence, but these were not the only American Colonial coins he owned. Although none of the descriptions contain any particularly significant information, readers might be interested to see what else Thoresby owned and how he cataloged it:

Immediately following the Massachusetts silver coins Thoresby lists the Maryland coins struck during the same period.⁸

445. I know not where more appositely to insert a very beautiful *Maryland Shilling* 2 dwts. 19½ gr. of the Lord *Baltimore's*, whose Effigies it represents barc-headed and half Face, very well performed, CAECILIVS. DNS. TERRAE. MARIAE. & CT. Rev. on each Side of his Arms under a Crown XII. with a suitable Motto for the Planation, CRESCITE. ET. MVLTIPPLICAMINI. My Lord Archbishop of *Yorke* hath a Groat of the same Mint. 446. A Copper Coin of the same Place, like the former, save VI for XII.

The copper sixpence in Thoresby's collection is extremely rare and it is rather surprising that he owned an example.

On the following page Thoresby details his collection of St. Patrick's coinage, which he places within the period of Charles II.⁹ (Thoresby's list is chronological.) He writes:

481. An *Irish* (Silver) Medal, with a crowned King playing upon a Harp, as K. *David* is represented, over which the Crown of *England*, FLOREAT. REX. Rev. St. *Patrick*, or a mitred Bishop, with a double Cross, QVIESCAT. PLEBS. These were also originally of Copper, and were current, I presume, for *Half-pence* and *Farthings*, for they are of different Dimensions; both Sizes agree in the Figure of the King with a radiated Crown and Harp, and the Crown of *England* in a different Metal (*viz.* Brass upon the Copper) and *Floreat Rex*; but the Reverse are different, 482, the larger have St. *Patrick* in his Episcopal Habit, with the Crosier and Staff, preaching to the People, ECCE. GREX. Behind him is a Shield with III. And II. 483. The lesser have a Church behind the same Tutelar Saint, who is casting out of that Island all venomous Beasts with the Staffe of Jesus; of which the Native *Irish* tell many wonderful Things, QVIESCANT. PLEBS.

Thoresby was clearly well acquainted with both sizes of St. Patrick's coins as well as the rarer silver pieces. He touches on the question of denomination (farthing and halfpence), which is a mystery still debated by numismatists. He places the pieces

towards the end of his listing of Charles II coinage, which is the time most present-day numismatists believe these coins to have been struck.

The final listing of a Colonial coin appears several entries after the St. Patrick's coins. He briefly describes a London elephant token:

487. The *African* Half-penny hath the Elephant on one Side, and Arms of our Metropolis on the other, GOD. PRESERVE. LONDON. These are all the different Sorts that bear the King's Effigies."

Thoresby proceeds to list many of the other penny, halfpenny, and farthing tokens that were privately issued around this time. He makes no mention of the rare New England or Carolina Elephant tokens, which is unfortunate because it would have been interesting to see how he made sense of both the subject (the American Colonies) and the date (1694 – nearly a decade after Charles II left the throne). Numismatists have placed the Elephant tokens anywhere from 1672 to 1694, and it is clear that Thoresby believes they were struck much closer to 1672. Since these coins were struck during his lifetime we might assume that Thoresby knew the exact date when they were struck, but the lack of any supporting information from him leaves us short of anything definitive.

It is interesting to see which Colonial coins were acquired by Thoresby for his collection. He was alive while all of these coins were struck and likely added them to his collection shortly after they were issued. He was able to acquire some very rare specimens, although his collection was by no means complete.

ENDNOTES

- 1 Crosby, p. 44.
- 2 Crosby, p. 62.
- 3 Thoresby, p. 80.
- 4 Massachusetts Historical Society (1800), p. 229.
- 5 Crosby, p. 49.
- 6 Massachusetts Historical Society (1792), pp. 275-6.
- 7 Noe, pp. 15-6.
- 8 Thoresby, p. 81.
- 9 Thoresby, pp. 82-3.

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TWO EXAMPLES OF CONNECTICUT COPPER AND GLASS INVESTMENTS

(Randy Clark)

Sponsors of 18th century New England manufacturing enterprises were often involved in multiple diverse investments, based on business opportunity and local need. If one venture failed, another could be explored, with the hope at least one would become viable and profitable. Some sponsors acted simply as financiers, investing money or resources for partial ownership in a business venture (but playing no active role in the enterprise). Others invested personal expertise or time to play an active role in a venture, due to a high level of interest or commitment.

One way to increase chances of success for a business venture was to seek endorsement from the state government, pleading a case for a funding, exclusivity or a lottery based on benefit to the local economy (and possibly helping fill government coffers, as well).

Examples can be seen from many regions of Connecticut after the Revolutionary War, where businessmen would petition the state legislature for exclusive manufacturing contracts, asking that sole rights be given to such production for periods ranging from 5 to 20 years. Many of these were granted, as legislators tried to stimulate independence from foreign goods. In these contracts, the state itself did not appear to invest money – exclusivity was granted to ensure those that invested personal money would be the sole beneficiaries for sufficient time to recover expenses and a reasonable return. Examples of exclusivity granted in the 18th century by the Connecticut General Assembly are production of loaf sugar, clock making, gunpowder, snuff production, cloth manufacturing, glassware, etc ... as well as other types of commerce such as ferry routes, fishing rights, stage lines, publishing of psalms, etc.

The 1785 Connecticut copper coinage contract was unique in that a business consortium petitioned for private production of public money – typically a government controlled enterprise – requesting legislative authorization as well as exclusivity of manufacture. The General Assembly controlled the manufacture of such money by passing a law to make illegal unauthorized production and mandating state inspections of coinage prior to circulation. This level of control and scrutiny was not applied to other manufactured commodities (glass, iron, cloth, etc). But a similar level of government oversight was occasionally applied in cases of legally authorized private lotteries, the intent to ensure funds raised under legislative authority were properly applied to their intended purpose.

This article will explore two examples of business investments into the production of Connecticut state coppers and Connecticut's fledgling glass industry, one commencing prior to the 1785 mint authorization, and one after 1788, when minting had concluded.

Glass and small change were important commodities for trade in the state, whose shipments of cider and snuff were traded for rum, porter, molasses and other goods from the West Indies and neighboring states. Large liquid containers (kegs made of wood) were good for bulk transactions, but distribution and sale of personal use quantities was more easily done with bottles and flasks. Similarly, bulk transactions of large financial magnitude could be accomplished with silver, notes or securities, but distribution of goods in smaller quantities needed small change to complete. It is not surprising several businessmen interested in making small change coppers were also interested in the production of glass.

The businessmen of note are Samuel Bishop and Mark Leavenworth, both residents of New Haven during the period of interest. Brief biographical details will be discussed below along with their respective involvements. Samuel Bishop, as the reader may recall, was the first listed petitioner of a copper coinage proposal to the CT state legislature in 1785. Mark Leavenworth and family would become involved in the coppers production enterprise in the autumn of 1786.

The 1783 Pitkin, Bishop, Pitkin Petition to the CT General Assembly for a Glass Manufactory

Early efforts at producing glass in the colonies were generally short lived, including production at Jamestown, VA in 1608; Salem, MA in 1639; New Amsterdam in 1654; South Jersey in 1739; Boston in 1752; and Temple, NH in 1780. Each would attempt a variety of products, the most common being window glass for homes and bottles for commercial use. Most glassware was imported from England, Holland or Germany at considerable expense. At the end of the revolutionary war, focused efforts were made by several states to gain independence from such foreign goods.

In January 1783, a consortium was formed which petitioned the Connecticut state legislature to establish a "glass manufactory." This would be the first glass production effort in the state and would address an important need for the local economy. Connecticut had substantial direct trade with the West Indies, shipping cider, horses and mules southward while bringing molasses, sugar, salt and rum northwards – directly from ports in Hartford and New Haven. Glassware in the form of bottles and large vessels facilitated this important trade of liquids, as well as local distribution of rum, snuff, porter and wine when wooden casks were used for bulk shipment.

Another important need was a local supply of window glass, often produced in the form of "crown glass." Squares of crown glass were predominantly imported, from sources such as Bristol, England, by the square ranging in size from 7x5 inches to 9x11 inches. Buying material from European sources posed cost and accessibility problems.

To the Honorable, etc.

The memorial of Wm. Pitkin, Samuel Bishop and Elisha Pitkin, humbly propose to your Honors

Whether manufacturing glass in this state will not be for the public emolument of the same; and if it be thought an object worthy the attention of your Honors, they will, if properly encouraged, erect works and pursue said business. Money out of the public treasury in this distressing day, we do not expect; but an exclusive right to such manufacture, such length of time as may be thought proper to save them the great expense that will be necessary in buildings, etc. for said purpose, etc. And if the proposal meets your Honors' approbation, we pray a committee to hear your memorialist in the premises, and report, or any other way, etc.

Wm Pitkin
Samuel Bishop
Elisha Pitkin
Hartford, January 28th, 1783
(Connecticut Public Records, Industry II. 179)

Upon the Memorial of William Pitkin Samuel Bishop and Elisha Pitkin Esq preferred to this Assembly praying for Liberty to have the exclusive Right to Set up and carry on a Glass Manufactory in this State Resolved that the Memorialists have Liberty and the Liberty and Privilege is hereby granted unto them their Heirs and Assigns to erect and Set up a Glass Manufactory and to have the Sole and exclusive Right in this State to make Glass of any kind for the Term of twenty five Years from and after the Time they shall begin the first blast for making Glass, And that the Memorialists shall be exempted for the Term of ten Years from the rising of this Assembly from any Assessments on Account of the Profits that may arise from their manufacturing of Glass in consequence of this Resolve; Always Provided that the Memorialists Shall compleat their Works so as to begin the Manufacturing Glass according to the Intent of this Act within three Years from the rising of this Assembly.
(January 1783, Connecticut General Assembly Public Records, 1783-1784. 57)

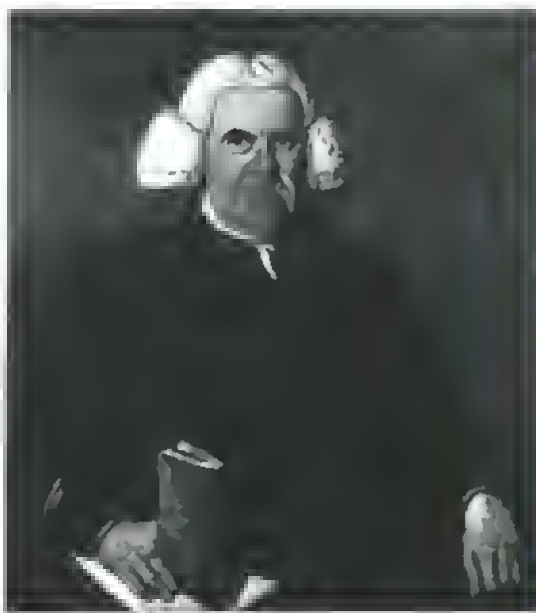
While Samuel Bishop played a part in the glass works legislative petition, he appears to have had no additional involvement with the actual manufacturing enterprise (which would be carried out by the Pitkin contingent). Two years later he would be the lead petitioner of the October 1785 state copper coinage contract proposal with James Hillhouse, John Goodrich and Joseph Hopkins.

Samuel Bishop was born November 17, 1723 in New Haven and would live there until he died in office as Mayor on April 7, 1803. Bishop served as a government employee his entire career including positions as New Haven town clerk (54 years), representative to the state legislature (26 years), Judge of New Haven county and probate courts. In 1801, he was appointed Collector of New Haven by Thomas Jefferson – a contentious appointment due to his age. His son, Abraham Bishop, graduated Yale with

a law degree at 15 years old and would be an active and outspoken political influence in the state.

It is not documented why Samuel Bishop, a career legislator, would choose to invest in glass and copper coinage manufacturing, but each was a key business need for his home city of New Haven. The port, and later city, of New Haven was a vibrant trade center for shipping to the West Indies, as well as a key distribution center for the state's economy (as was Hartford, situated on the Connecticut River). Glass and small currency were key components to support the New Haven business sector with containers and small change for trading. In addition to his 1785 support of Connecticut coppers, Bishop was one of 26 authorized signers of October 11, 1777 state small change notes along with two other future state coppers mint sponsors, Joseph Hopkins and Pierpont Edwards.

With both glass and coinage business ventures, Samuel Bishop played no direct role in the company itself, reserving his involvement for legislative and financial support alone. No additional references to Samuel Bishop are found in any glass works references.



Samuel Bishop (1723-1803)
Second Mayor of New Haven (1793-1803)



For those interested in the fate of the glass manufactory, cousins William Pitkin and Elisba Pitkin would struggle with getting the enterprise off the ground, but would be successful in establishing the East Hartford Glass Works (later called Pitkin Glass Works) in present day Manchester, Connecticut. The glassworks is usually considered a bottle glasshouse for products such as chestnuts, demijohns, utility bottles, snuffs, globular bottles and tableware like pitchers, creamers, bowls & pans. The most recognizable Pitkin bottles are inkwells and flasks blown in the German half-post method

consisting of ribs & swirls. Window glass and clock faces were also manufactured there in the early years.



Pitkin Style Flask

Chestnut Bottle

Snuff Bottle

Pitkin Style Inkwell

The 25 year exclusivity for making glass would generally be honored starting in 1783, but the company would run into financial troubles in 1789 and 1791, each time petitioning the state legislature for authorizing a lottery to raise funding (both were granted). The glassworks was believed closed circa 1830, when competing glass works were established in neighboring East Hartford in 1806, Coventry in 1813, Willington in 1814 and Glastonbury in 1814.

It was during the East Hartford Glassworks' early manufacturing troubles (1783-1791) that the second half of our story begins.

The 1790 Mark Leavenworth Pctition to the CT General Assembly for a Glass Manufactory

In November 1786 Mark Leavenworth of New Haven, Connecticut, would become a partner in the Connecticut copper mint, playing an important role in the production of coppers. Mark, with brother William Leavenworth and brother-in-law Dr. Isaac Baldwin, would revive the struggling copper mint earlier in the fall of 1786 with an injection of money and manufacturing talent. Each had daily involvement in copper coinage finance and distribution until the Jarvis consortium overtook production in late 1787. In this mint role, Mark Leavenworth was a co-partner with Samuel Bishop and would almost certainly have been aware of Bishop's role in sponsoring the East Hartford Glass Works. In 1805, brother William Leavenworth started a clock making business in Waterbury, CT relocating to Albany, NY with his business in later years.

Born in Waterbury, CT on May 26, 1752 to a distinguished and prosperous family, Mark was Yale educated with a 1771 degree in law. After graduation, he became involved with the West Indies trade in New Haven with his brothers, Jesse and William Leavenworth. Mark would involve himself in a number of local manufacturing, securities speculation and trading enterprises (rum, tea, coins, buttons, glass) until 1793, at which time he would become financially involved with author, financier and diplomat Joel Barlow (Yale 1778) in a series of failed ventures, settling in Paris circa 1799. In

1805 he was financially ruined by a broken iron contract with Napoleon's government, litigated in French court for three years. Mark died in Paris on November 2, 1812.

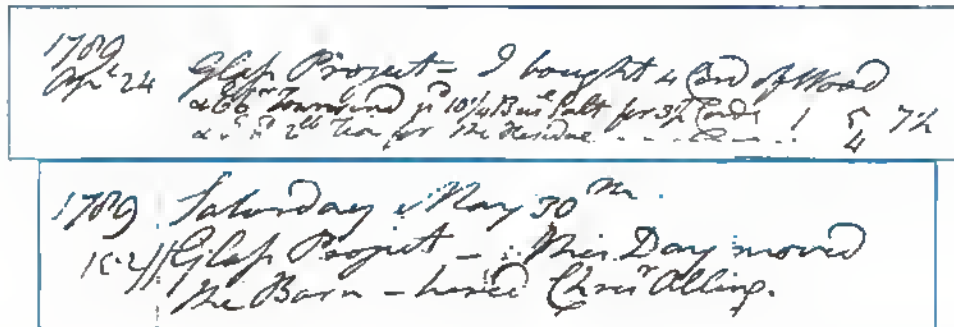
CASH, or Connecticut Securities,
GIVEN FOR
Continental Loan-Office
Certificates,
Mark Leavenworth, at New-Haven, or
William Leavenworth, at Waterbury.
Connecticut Journal, February 21, 1787

Mark Leavenworth's interests in glass manufacturing started as a four part series of articles entitled "Hints to Manufacturers" in the New Haven Gazette, August 1787, discussing local manufacturing opportunities for nails, shovels, glass, gloves and brushes. In the discussion of glass, he is quite critical of the lack of progress made by the Pitkin consortium's glass making efforts since their 1783 legislative endorsement:

The making of glass has been subject of an exclusive grant. The grantees have never made any, because they did not understand their own business; not because they wanted workmen who understood theirs. The grant is, or will be forfeited, before they will ever make any. The grantees have always been calculating to make the crown window glass, which of all glass work is the most difficult and expensive. It is understood in Europe but by very few. But the circumstance, which ought to put it out of question, as the first attempt, is, that it may be purchased in this State, at but a little trifle more than it costs in Bristol, when other kinds must cost at least double the European price. A box of window glass, worth three or four pounds, pays about three shillings, or three and four pence freight; and there is little loss in breakage, compared with some other articles of glass. The freight only, of as many quart bottles, as would cost four pounds, would amount to fifteen or twenty dollars, instead of three shillings, or three and four pence. The expense of making the bottles, is much less; and people, who understand the business, could much easier be obtained. If they wished to extend their business into white glass, there is no article which they might not better attempt than window glass; decanters, tumblers, chandeliers, sconces, phials and wine glasses, all pay a freight beyond all proportion greater than the window glass. But, after all, the bottles would be the greatest object to more than one glass house; for if we could have them at a reasonable price, the sale would be vastly extensive, and our farmers would be much benefited by it. If we had bottles in plenty, and cheap, our cider might be shipped to the West Indies, and the Southern States, to great advantage. We might always send cider, that would be better than the famous Bristol cider, for which the inhabitants of the southern states pay a pistareen per bottle. The common junk bottles, put on board ship in Bristol for exportation, cost one shilling and four-pence sterling, per dozen; but they are made under the weight of heavy duties, which, though drawn back on exportation, considerably increase the expense. Is it not probable that it might be

good business to make them at two shillings and four pence Connecticut currency per dozen? Might not plenty of bottles prevent the extravagance of drinking London bottled porter, and thereby make a demand for a great number of bottles ?

In April 1789 Mark Leavenworth started his own investments into a New Haven based glass works. Entries in the Leavenworth daily account book show multiple purchases of wood, lime and kelp for the "Glass Project" and "Glass House" over the period April 24th to July 11th. Kelp, once burned to ash, can be used to make clear glass, such as windows.



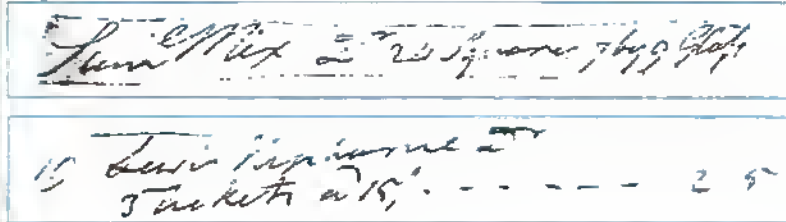
It was not until 1790 that Mark Leavenworth moved to challenge the Pitkin glassworks' legislative exclusivity by petitioning the Connecticut General Assembly for endorsement of his glass making efforts, requesting authorization of a lottery to fund the works he has "at great expense erected:"

Upon the Memorial of Mark Leavenworth of New Haven Shewing to this Assembly that he has at great expence erected Buildings and furnaces for the purpose of making Glass that the expence of the Works, has been considerably increased by sundry Misfortunes incident to new Works and praying for Aid as by Memorial on file. Resolved by this Assembly that Liberty be granted and Liberty is hereby Granted said Leavenworth to raise the Sum of four hundred pounds lawfull Money by Lottery of One or more Classes, provided he do within One Month after the rising of this Assembly lodge with the Treasurer of the State a Bond with one or more Sureties to be approved by the Treasurer in the penal Sum of three Thousand pounds Conditioned for the faithfull Management of said Lottery by himself or such persons as he may appoint, and the Faithful Payment of the Prizes and that the Money so raised be applied to the purpose of establishing and carrying on the Manufactory of Glass in this State, and that said Lottery shall be drawn within One Year from the first of June 1790, & that none of the Tickets be sold before the first Day of November next. (May 1790, Public Records, 1789-1792. 148)

The lottery was granted, with Leavenworth authorized to sell tickets as early November 1790. From May 1790 to November 1790 there are account book entries documenting the local sale of small quantities of glass squares (likely crown glass) of size 7x9.



Crown Window Glass



The authorized lottery was advertised in the Connecticut Courant on December 27, 1790. Leavenworth account book entries appear from November 1790 to April 1791 documenting sales of 75 tickets at 15 shillings each (for a total of £56.5.0 versus the authorized £400), seemingly too small a result for continued funding of the glassworks.

Account book entries abruptly stop in April 1791, when Mark Leavenworth sailed for Europe. It appears his involvement in the fledgling glass making operation had terminated at that time. However it does not appear Leavenworth gracefully ended his venture. Some 1 ½ years later, the state legislature began an inquiry into what became of the Leavenworth lottery. No follow-up entries are found in state records, implying the issue was not successfully resolved.

Resolved by this Assembly, That Moses Cleaveland, Esq be directed and Authorized to make enquiry whether the Money raised by Mark Leavenworth Esqr. of New Haven by a Lottery granted him by the General Assembly of this State to enable him to compleat and carry on the Glass Manufactory in New Haven has been applied, according to the Conditions of the Grant, & Report make to the Assembly to be holden at Hartford in May 1793. (October 1792, Public Records, 1789-1792. 499)

Summary

This article illustrates two examples of 18th century glass manufacturing ventures made by Connecticut coppers mint principals Samuel Bishop and Mark Leavenworth. In the case of Samuel Bishop, investments of legislative support and money were made to both coppers and glass manufacturing – with no additional involvement in company details - the intent being to ensure both ventures succeeded to help the local economy. In the case of Mark Leavenworth, financial investment as well as manufacturing support and product distribution/sale were his involvement, with the intent to profit from each business. When opportunities to profit from state coppers and glass production appeared to decline, Mark Leavenworth looked elsewhere for his next investments.

For those who appreciate the aesthetics of crudely manufactured goods from 18th century New England, collecting state coppers and early glass both provide fascinating hobbies.

**DISCOVERY OF *THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC
MANUAL* BY MONTROVILLE W. DICKESON, M.D.
FORMERLY OWNED, CORRECTED, UPDATED AND
ANNOTATED BY
SYLVESTER S. CROSBY**

(Jeff Lipsky)

Montroville W. Dickeson (1809-1882) was one of America's earliest numismatists.¹ In 1860, the second edition of his book, *The American Numismatic Manual* was published. This work had "Spite of an enthusiastic approach an extensive scope, variety designations, detailed tables, and profuse hand-drawn illustrations was readily recognized to be incomplete and quite inaccurate."²

Sylvester S. Crosby finished his monumental tome, *The Early Coins of America*, in 1875.³ Since some material was already in print on this subject he did not have to completely start from scratch; he could build on these previous works.

Recently Crosby's corrected, updated and annotated copy of Dickeson's earlier work has come into my possession. Throughout the section on colonial era coinage and the supplement to the second edition (which this book is) are notations, corrections, and anecdotes written in light pencil in Crosby's own hand. After these comments Crosby either writes Crosby, S. Crosby, S.S. Crosby, or his initials S.S.C. Furthermore, there are several slips of paper with notations relevant to the subject material stuffed in between pages that were probably prepared for inclusion in his work. These notes are written on the previously blank backside of paper from a prospectus for the New England Petroleum Stove Company. Crosby refers to this book in his text on page 219.⁴ He does not mention that he has corrected, updated and annotated the book.

Crosby requested information on coins in other collectors' cabinets.⁵ Apparently a number of collectors responded. On page 60 of this copy of Dickeson he notes at the bottom concerning the original specimen of Sommer Islands shilling from Mr. Hollis's cabinet: "J.J. Mickley M.D. (May 1868) owned by Wm. S. Appleton."⁶ (Figure 1) Another notation is the one known example of a Sommer Island sixpence "In possession

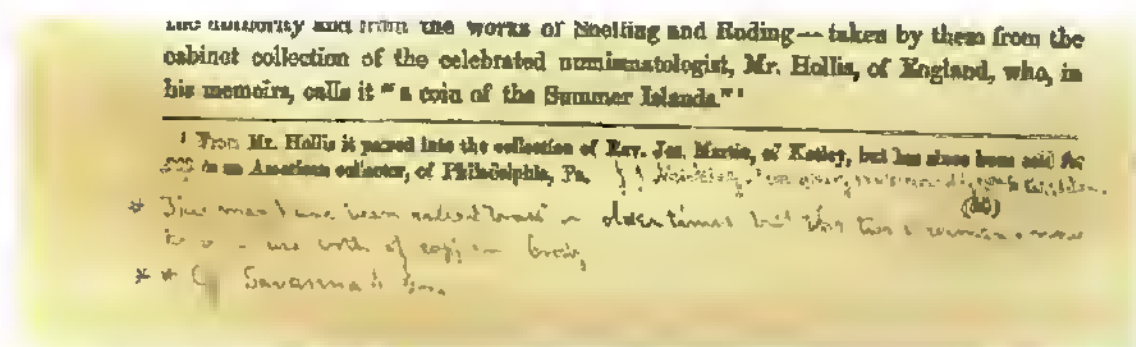


Figure 1. Notes from the bottom of page 58.

of a Mr. Holmes of Brooklyn, N.Y. in 1868.”⁷ (Figure 2) A further notation is on page 72 at the bottom. He continues Footnote 2 concerning a New England Elephant token saying “and is now 1870? owned by Wm. S. Appleton, Esq. of Boston, he having paid \$235.00 for it.”⁸ On page 79 he mentions a Granby copper (Higley) “this w was a v double struck it is now owned by L.G. Parmelle, May 1874.”⁹ On page 108 Crosby lists the Connecticut types that J. Carson Brevoort may have.

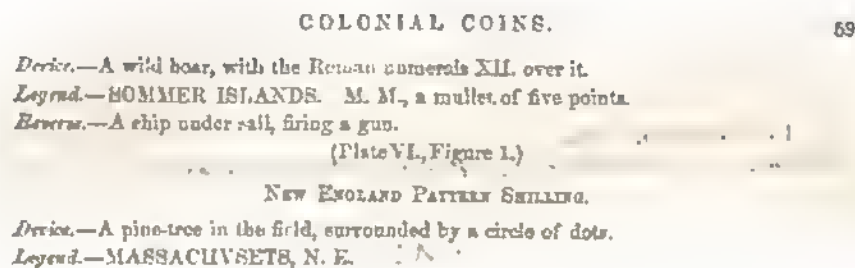


Figure 2. From page 59, the Sommer Island VI Pence Piece.

One anecdote Crosby pencils in at the bottom of page 106 in the Connecticut section is “* Dickeson tells me that an old man who said he once worked in the Connecticut mint, informed him that many of the obverse dies belonged to private parties, or firms, who, when ordering a lot of coins would send their own obverse, which would be coupled with whatever reverse die there belonging to the mint, might happen to come first to hand. He thus accounted for the different combinations of several reverses with the same obverse, and vice versa. S.S.C.”¹⁰ (Figure 3). I believe this is new information and impacts on our knowledge of how coins were distributed and the reason for the number of die combinations.

these pages, or the cotton-gin—an invention for which the world was waiting and absolutely essential to its advancement—inauguration, as it did, an industrial movement which is still onward, and to be onward, beyond the ken of human perception or calculation.

Figure 3. Crosby's note at the bottom of page 106.

Crosby also annotated many of the Connecticut type and variety tables (Figure 4 as an example) as well as made notations of errors in the associated plates (Figure 5 as an example).

COLONIAL COINS.						107
CONNECTICUT TYPES AND VARIETIES.						
1787.	LEGEND.	REVERSE.	REVERSE.	REVERSE.	REVERSE.	VARIETY.
1	AUCTORI	CONNEC	Left	Laureated.		1
2	AUCTORI	CONNEC	Right	"		2
3	AUCTORI	CONNEC.	Left	Fillet-Festooned.		3
4	AUCTORI	CONNEC.	Right	Laureated.		4
5	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Left	Fillet-Festooned.		5
6	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Right	"		6
7	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Left	Laureated.		7
8	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	"	Fillet-Festooned.		8
9	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	"	Laureated.		9
10	AUCTORI..	CONNEC.	"	"		10
11	AUCTORI..	CONNEC.	Right	"		11
12	AUCTORI..	CONNEC.	Left	"		12
13	AUCTORI..	CONNEC.	Right	Fillet-Festooned.		13
14	AUCTORI..	CONNEC.	Left	Laureated.		14
15	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Right	Fillet-Festooned.		15
16	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Left	Laureated.		16
17	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Right	Fillet-Festooned.		17
18	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Left	Laureated.		18
19	AUCTORI.	CONNEC.	Right	Fillet-Festooned.		19
20	AUCTORI. +	CONNEC.	Left	Laureated.		20
21	AUCTORI. +	CONNEC.	"	"		21
22	AUCTORI. +	CONNEC. +	"	"		22
23	+ AUCTORI. +	CONNEC.	"	"		23
24	+ AUCTORI. +	CONNEC. +	"	"		24
25	AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC.	"	"		25
26	AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC.	"	"		26
27	+ AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC.	"	"		27
28	AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC. +	"	"		28
29	+ AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC. +	"	"		29
30	+ AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC. +	"	"		30
31	+ AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC. +	Right	Fillet-Festooned.		31
32	+ AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC.	Left	Laureated.		32
33	+ AUCTORI. + +	CONNEC.	Right	Fillet-Festooned.		33
34	+ AUCTORI. + + +	CONNEC. +	Left	"		34

Figure 4. Crosby annotations on a Connecticut Table.



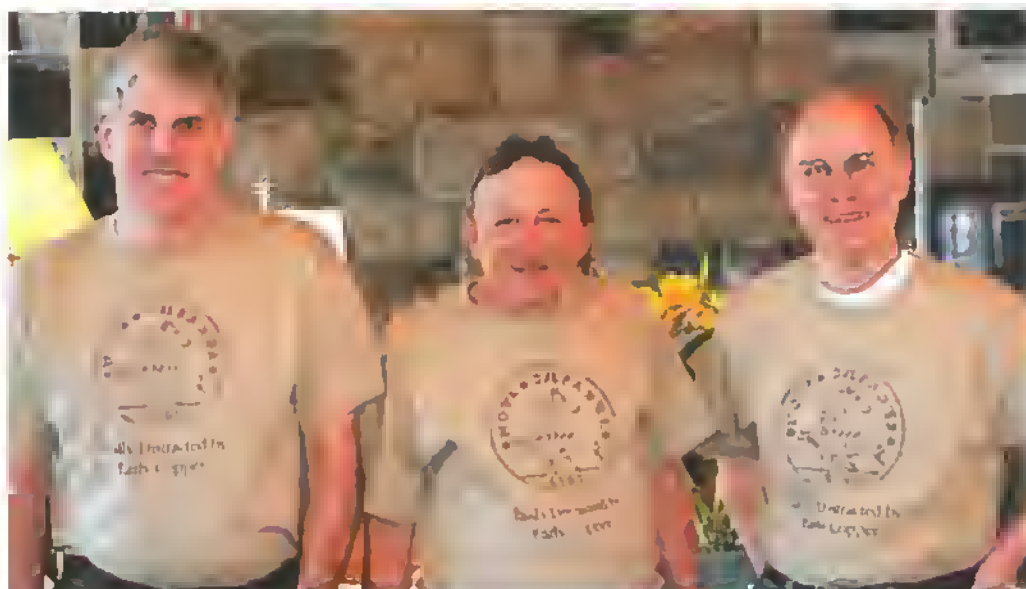
Figure 5. Crosby Corrects Connecticut Plates.

Finding this book came as a complete and pleasant surprise; I had no idea of its existence. I hope that study of Crosby's notations may help us understand the process he went through in writing his work and the evolution of the knowledge leading up to its publication.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Bowers, David, *Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American Coins*; Atlanta, GA: Whitman Publishing LLC, 2009; p. 305
- ² Eric P. Newman in Centennial Forward, Centennial Edition, *The Early Coins of America*, Sylvester S. Crosby (Quarterman Publications, Inc. reprint of the 1875 edition, Lawrence, MA. 1974) p. VII
- ³ *Ibid*, XIII
- ⁴ *Ibid*, Main text t p. 219
- ⁵ *Ibid*, Centennial Forward, p. VII
- ⁶ Dickeson, M.D., Montroville W., *The American Numismatic Manual (2nd Edition)*, Philadelphia, PA: J.B. Lippincott, 1860; p. 58
- ⁷ *Ibid*, p. 59
- ⁸ *Ibid*, p. 72
- ⁹ *Ibid*, p. 79
- ¹⁰ *Ibid*, p. 106

What's wrong with this picture?



First correct answer posted on Yahoo Colonial Coins Chat Board wins a T-Shirt

ARTIFACT AND COIN RECOVERIES FROM SITE #29, A 17th CENTURY WESTERN NEW JERSEY LOCATION

(Wayne H. Shelby)

This colonial site was discovered by the author in the autumn of 1989 while metal detecting on a farm field in Burlington County, New Jersey. The majority of the recovered artifacts were immediately recognized as middle to late 17th century and generally English in origin. The recoveries were later documented in the *C4 Newsletter* in an article entitled "Survey of Colonial Coins Recovered in Southern New Jersey Part II" (Summer 2005). The purpose of this article is to identify, discuss and provide illustrations of the recovered artifacts since comparable documentation from this region and time period are elusive.

The following information may provide the reader with important insight into the early settlement of this part of West Jersey, which was called the "London Tenth," including a brief history of the area before English occupation.¹

Walloons fled religious persecution in Belgium, and built the first recorded European settlement in New Jersey, ca. 1624, establishing a Burlington Island trading post to barter with the indigenous Lenape people. In turns occupied by Dutch, Swedes and Finns, it was seized by the English in 1664.

In the year 1677, "West Jersey was first developed as a Quaker colony, with initial settlement primarily coming directly from England. The proprietors' one-hundredth shares in West Jersey were estimated to equate to roughly twenty thousand acres each. Tenth-part divisions of the colony were later superseded by counties. Indentured servants were few in West Jersey compared to East Jersey, and the quit-rent system—so problematic in East Jersey—was never prevalent in the western province. This was due to the greater competition for sales to settlers as a result of a greater fractioning of proprietary rights in West Jersey. The unit of settlement was a medium-sized farm from fifty to three hundred acres."²

As the article continues, it elaborates on the second tenth division where Site #29 is located and reads as follows:

"London Tenth (including Burlington) – The second tenth was purchased by 'south country' Englishmen united under commissioners to establish settlement on the Rancocas. The ship Kent arrived at Burlington in August 1677 carrying 230 passengers from Hull, in Yorkshire, and London. The settlement was first called New Beverly. Town lots were drawn in October 1677; settlement began in December 1678. Each owner of a whole propriety was entitled to 10 acres within the town plus 64 acres of meadow. Burlington became the capital of West New Jersey in 1681."³

West Jersey's Earliest Settlements. A map of West Jersey, showing its earliest settlements is shown below. It is taken from "New Jersey, 1609-1680-European Settlement" by John P. Snyder. Published in The Story of New Jersey's Civil Boundaries, 1606-1968 (Trenton. 1969), p.5 the original map is held by the New Jersey State Archives.⁴



The following is a useful guide to the reader:

Dates of Reign for Great Britain Rulers

James I	1603-1625
Charles I	1625-1649
Commonwealth	1649-1660
Charles II	1660-1685
James II	1685-1688
William & Mary	1689-1694
William III	1689-1694
Anne	1702-1714
George I	1714-1727

Artifact and Coin Recoveries from 1989 to Present. Thirty five doublet buttons have been recovered at the site. This is a significant recovery for any location in the region. Doublet buttons were used from the 14th Century until approximately the middle of the 17th Century or shortly thereafter as indicated by “wikipedia” in the paragraph that follows:

*The doublet fell permanently out of fashion in the mid-17th century when Louis XIV of France and Charles II of England established a court costume for men consisting of a long coat, a waistcoat, a cravat, a wig, and breeches—the ancestor of the modern suit.*⁵

The recovered doublet (or pimple) buttons resemble those used during the period of the English Civil War (1642 to approximately 1660). They are mostly composed of pewter as those illustrated in the article; however, some were produced in brass and a few in silver. The buttons themselves are quite distinctive and vary in appearance from round to a slightly flattened ball, with most pieces exhibiting the traditional raised pimple in the middle. The button backs were embedded with a wire shank or loop during the time of manufacture. The button size generally ranges from 9 to 18 millimeters in diameter and 29 to 75 grains in weight. However, the coat button illustrated measures 26 millimeters in diameter, 190.4 grains in weight and is considered extremely large for the time period. (Figures 1, 1A, and 1B)

Another unusual recovery is a single octagonal pewter cuff link measuring 11mm in diameter. It is cast, however the shank was formed as an integral part of the button, in this instance a hole had to be drilled into the shank. The style of this type shank became popular at the turn of the century (circa 1700). Interestingly, the cuff link is hand etched revealing a double image to the eye of the beholder, a rigged sailing ship with the angled height of the masts resembling the points of a King or Queen’s crown. (Figure 2)

The recoveries as illustrated in Figures 3 through 9 represent various metal and wax artifacts.

- Cloth seals or bale seals shown are composed of lead. One exhibits a goat or ram, the other has initials of “SW” or “MS” depending on position held. (Figures 3 and 4) In an article written by Dr. Silas D. Hurry appearing in the *Maryland Archaeology Month*, April 2010, Titled “From Shovel to Showcase” published by the Maryland State Museum of Archaeology we have:

Cloth seals or bale seals served two basic purposes in the colonial period with some variation in form and function. Their primary function was to provide proof that cloth or other goods had met the standard set by the guild which controlled the materials in the bale. Most often, this was cloth since cloth was one of the most valuable and highly regulated and controlled materials in the 17th century. The English wool trade and other industrial crafts relating to textiles were

the backbone of the British economy in the 17th century. Cloth seals attesting that the fabric met guild standards have been recovered from excavations throughout St. Mary's City. Most of these are English, but a few Dutch examples have been recovered. We also find very similar seals that serve to indicate that the royal custom has been paid on the fabric. These usually take the form of multi-lobed seals that include the royal arms. In addition to either attesting to guild approval or payment of custom taxes, these seals actually served as tamper indicators. It is not possible to shorten a bolt of fabric without disturbing the seals, which would show that one is trying to cheat one's customer.⁶

- Half portion of a Cloth or bale seal (lead). (Figure 5)
- Lead "what's it"? May be intended as a toy or an expression of mischief. (Figure 6)
- Wax Seal engraved with a goose. (Figure 7)
- Mid 17th century plated spoon with thistle hallmark within bowl, most likely Scottish in origin. (Figure 8)
- A third portion of an 8 lb cannon ball. May have been collected in the period for its iron content. (Figure 9)

Ten coins have been recovered from the site:

- No Date Spanish 1 real cob cut ½ (Mint, Bolivia)
- No Date Spanish 1 real cob cut ½
- 1698 English halfpenny
- 1718 English halfpenny
- 1723 English halfpenny
- No Date English Charles II farthing
- No Date English Charles II farthing
- No Date English William III halfpenny
- No Date English William III halfpenny
- No Date English William III halfpenny

The following pictures are examples from the authors collection representing the farthings and halfpennies recovered at the site. The actual ground found pieces do not photograph well due to heavy surface corrosion.

Figure 10: Charles II farthing

Figure 11: William III halfpenny

Figure 12: George I halfpenny

Two cut half portions of Spanish 1 real cobs were recovered at the site. One is very heavily worn revealing only portions of the cross. The second piece in good condition is attributable to the pillar and waves type minted in Bolivia, South America. Upon close examination it appears to be a Type III reverse minted solely in the year 1652. (Figure 13)

The numismatic information above does not provide a definite timeframe for when the site was first established. However, by including the area history and the recovered artifacts, it appears the site was settled earlier than the dates on the copper coins indicate. The following information supports this conclusion. In years prior to 1694 the minting of regal base metal coins was frugal with exception to specific year issues of Charles II farthings (1672 thru 1675). Charles II halfpennies do not appear to have circulated in the colonies as documented in the summer 2005 C4 article titled *Survey of Colonial Coins Recovered in Southern New Jersey—Part II.*⁷ Even tin coins issued prior to 1694 were scarce to rare and in most cases would not survive ground burial for an extended period of time unless soil conditions were highly favorable.

In addition, no regal base metal coins were minted between the years 1644 and 1672 thereby hindering the possibilities of earlier English issues being lost at this location. Prior to the year 1613 all English coins were struck in gold or silver. It appears bartering was a favorable solution to commerce and survival at this location.

Considering this, I believe the site was first settled between the years 1677 and 1690. However, by not overlooking the English taking control of the region in 1664, there is a possibility the settlement began even earlier than 1676. Since the latest recorded artifact is a George 1 halfpenny dated 1723, it appears the site may have vanished by mid to late 1720's.

ENDNOTES

¹ See <http://www.burlingtonnj.us/BIM.html>, *Brief History. City of Burlington- Offices, Authorities, Boards & Agencies, Board of Island Managers.*

² See <http://www.njarchives.org/links/pdf/proprietors.pdf>
East and West Jersey Proprietors by Joseph R. Klett NEW JERSEY STATE ARCHIVES © 2008 as revised. Part V – West Jersey's Earliest Settlement, p.14.

³ Klett, Joseph R., *ibid*, p.14.

⁴ Klett, Joseph R., *ibid*, p.15.

⁵ See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douplet_\(clothing\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douplet_(clothing))

⁶ See http://www.marylandarcheology.org/Arch_Month_2010/artifact_gallery/Lead_Seals.php (April, 2010).

⁷ Shelby, Wayne H., "Survey of Colonial Coins Recovered in Southern New Jersey" The C4 Newsletter, Summer 2005 p. 40.

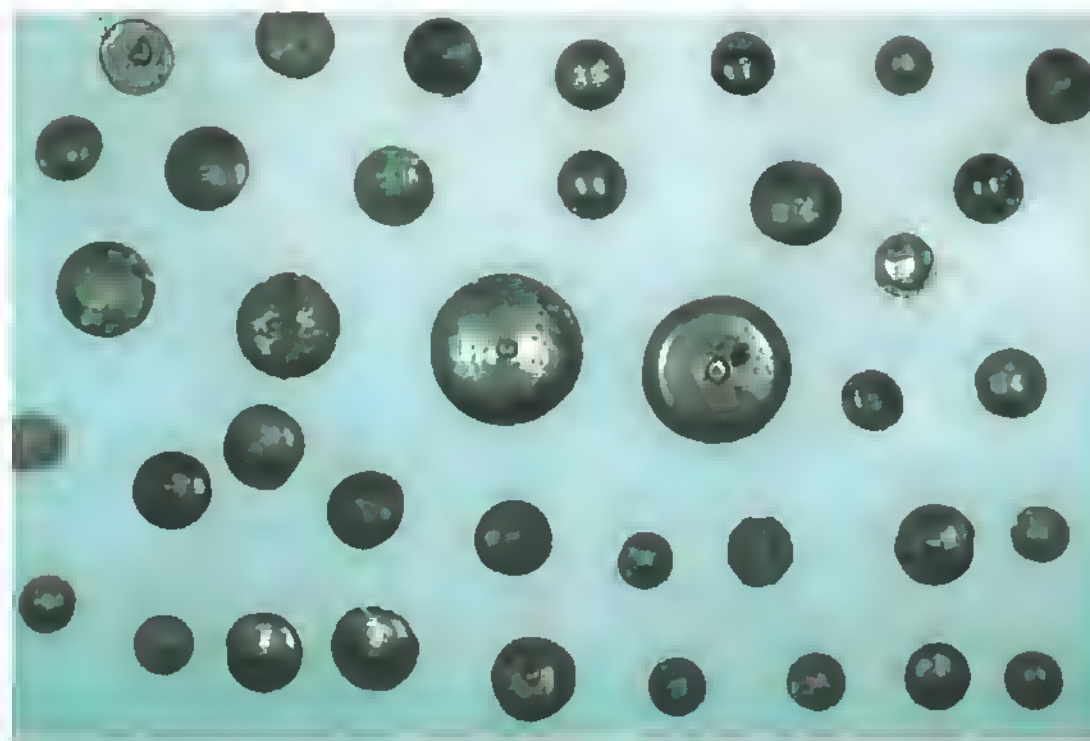


Figure 1. Pimple Buttons

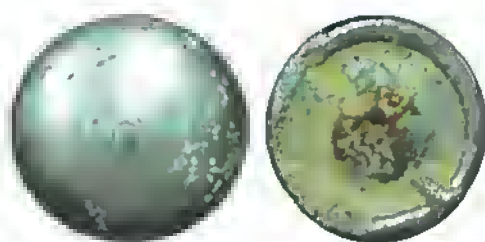


Figure 1A. Obverse and Reverse of Coat (Large) Pimple Button

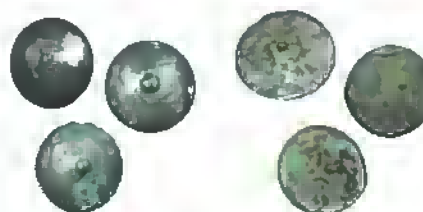


Figure 1B. Obverse and Reverse of Small Pimple Buttons



Figure 2. Octagonal Cufflink



Figure 3. Bale Seal (with figure of a ram)



Figure 4. Bale Seal (with initials)



Figure 5. Portion of Bale Seal



Figure 6. Lead "What's It"



Figure 7. Wax Seal with Goose



Figure 8. 17th Century Spoon with Thistle Hallmark in Bowl



Figure 9. Cannonball



Figure 10. Charles I Farthing

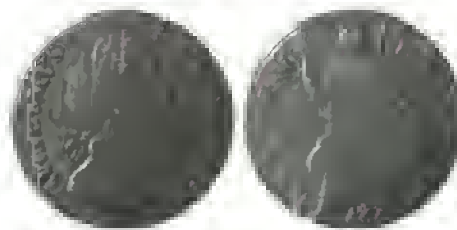


Figure 11. William III Halfpenny



Figure 12. George I Halfpenny

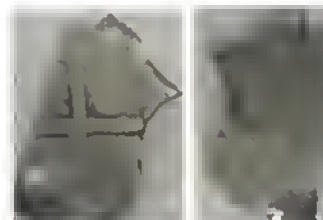


Figure 13. Cut Half Real

*****THE SPANISH-AMERICAN CORNER*****

**THE HENRY CHRISTENSEN REFERENCE COLLECTION
OF COUNTERFEIT 8 REALES**

(Mark Mayhugh)

Just in case anyone hasn't been paying attention to what I've been saying in these pages, the Spanish eight reales was one of the most heavily counterfeited coins in early America. . . in the world, for that matter. It has been estimated that as many as 25,000 per day were produced in one factory alone in Birmingham, England. Despite this, very little is known of the false dollars and they have attracted minimal collector interest. Until very recently, no comprehensive collection of these pieces has ever been offered for sale to the best of my knowledge. However, all that changed with the Stack's 75th anniversary sale which featured the Henry Christensen sale of counterfeit Spanish pieces.

The Christensen collection of circulating counterfeit silver consisted of 30 pieces, mostly 8 real pieces, or Spanish milled dollars of the bust type. Little information is given on how or why the collection was put together. The fact that the collection is fairly diverse with no duplication would indicate that some time was spent putting it together and it is a collection rather than an accumulation amassed from dealers' rejects. Several major types are offered, struck as well as cast. A couple of 4 real coins are offered as well as a group of buttons imitating Spanish coins.

The highlight of the sale was the first piece offered, lot 6547, a 1792 coin with a Santiago mintmark. This coin bore a fake Bank of England countermark as well as two large cancellation cuts. The piece sold quickly for \$600.00. The following lot, a similar piece minus the cuts, only realized a third as much, however. After the success of the first couple of lots, prices quickly fell for the more common and the cast pieces. As is the case with most contemporary circulating counterfeits, the crudest and those with the wrong assayer and other such errors attracted the most attention. In this instance, a crude Guatemalan piece which was slightly double struck brought \$253.00. A very crude off-metal piece, lot 6565, brought \$230.00. In addition to its crudeness, the coin was struck in an off-metal and possibly on a small planchet that was hammered out to fit the dies. It displayed an incorrect assayer as well. I think this was one of the bargains of the sale. Another interesting coin in the sale was lot 6570, a double struck piece lacking the last two digits of the date. It barely brought \$100.00, as did many of the other interesting pieces in the sale.

The auction also contained a couple of 4 reales fakes. The first was a cast example of a frequently seen 1808 Santiago counterfeit. The second piece, dated 1777, was unusual in that it carried an 8 reales designation rather than a 4 reales value – Lot 6553 that sold for \$431.00.

In summation, the Henry Christensen collection of counterfeit Spanish copper was a refreshing change of pace and possibly the first large comprehensive listing of this type of material. There were some interesting pieces in the auction and if people ever wake up to the fact that these coins were part of the circulating currency of early America, they may have sold at bargain prices. Two examples are pictured below:



1781HC



1787HC

THE FRENCH-AMERICAN CORNER

THREE FOR ONE

(Jeff Rock)

In today's economic environment, a lot of people are cutting back, searching out sales, using coupons and generally making their money go further. Wouldn't it be nice if you could do that in numismatics too? Well, you can! How would you like to get two -- or three! -- coins for the price of one? No, it's not some massive sale on colonials. It's the fascinating area of French Colonies coinage that can offer such a bargain, all in one coin.

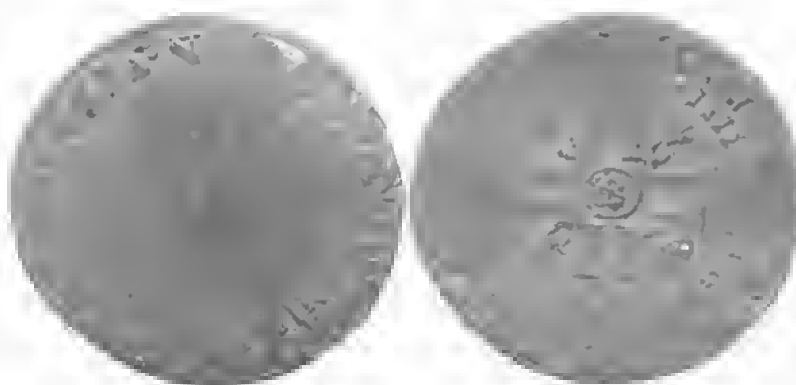


FIGURE 1. 1694-B Sol de 15 Deniers, Recoined over 1561-C Douzain of Henri II. The 1561 date can be seen at the far left, the 1694 date is below that and to the right. On the reverse, the original C mintmark can be seen at the base of the cross-like design, while the B mintmark can be seen at the center.

The example illustrated above as Figure 1 is one of the first French Colonies pieces this writer ever purchased, from Mike Ringo sometime in the mid-1980's. It is a *Sol de 15 Deniers*, also known as a Recoined Sol, of 1694, from the Rouen Mint [the "B" mintmark is at the center of the cross-like design on the reverse]. As one can guess by "Recoined," these issues were often (but not always) struck over earlier coins; they were minted from 1692-1705. This particular recoinage was done in the reign of Louis XIV; most French rulers at one point or another had reason to overstrike some of their predecessors issues of billon, silver or gold. The purpose of this recoinage was, of course, monetary in nature. Coins of this size, made of billon, had been traditionally valued at 12 *Deniers* and called a *douzain*. Louis XIV, paying off several wars and lavish spending at home did what most rulers eventually do -- he created money out of thin air. By calling the new coin a *Sol*, he made it worth 15 *Deniers* instead of 12 -- the extra 3 *Deniers* being pure profit. That was on top of the large profit the Crown already made, as the coin itself did not contain 12 *Deniers* worth of precious metal to begin with; billon contained only 24% silver up through 1641 -- but that dropped to just 19.95% when Louis XIV ascended to the throne! So this coinage type was multiply revalued -- first by

debasing the already low silver content (individual mints would often debase it even further when they could), then by revaluing the coin upwards over what it had traditionally been worth.

During the 1692-1705 era, some 28 different mints were in operation in France (not all mints operated for the entire coinage stretch); most mints struck this *Sol* denomination in the earliest years of coinage, mostly in 1692-1695. Fewer mints struck them in each succeeding year, and by the dates in the 1700's only one or two mints were still striking them. The initial coins were struck over earlier *douzains*, including those that had the counterstamped *fleur-de-lis* added in 1640 for circulation in the French Colonies in North America. When the supply of older billon issues was exhausted, new billon planchets were produced and the same dies were struck on these virgin planchets (called *flans neuf*) – for some mints you can find all three types of *Sol* struck during the same year: (1) Recoined over an earlier *douzain*. (2) Recoined over an earlier *douzain* that also had a 1640 counterstamp visible, and (3) Struck on a virgin planchet. These are listed as Ciani 1979 for virgin planchets and Ciani 1980 for overstrikes.

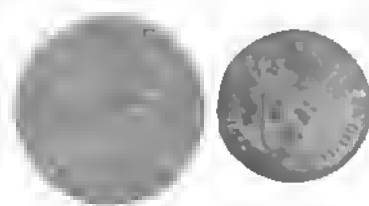


FIGURE 2. Actual size illustrations: the coin on the left is the overstruck issue of Figure 1, while the coin on the right is the actual size of the denomination struck on a virgin planchet. Which one would you want to accept in commerce at the same value?

What makes the coin shown in Figure 1 so interesting is that it is clearly overstruck – in fact, the undertype is MUCH larger than the dies for the *Sol*! (See Figure 2) This gives an amazing full legend of the undertype outside the circumference of the restruck coin – one wonders why it wasn't clipped down at some point! The host coin is a 1561-C [the mintmark for the St-Lo Mint] billon *douzain* of Henri II (listed as Ciani 1305 and as Sombart Sb4380, the *douzain aux croissants* type) – the original coin had been in circulation for 133 years when it was recoined by Louis XIV, circulating through the reigns of six different rulers! The coin shows both dates and both mintmarks, something very rarely found on the recoined issues, and the extra-large planchet makes it easy to attribute the undertype, which is often nearly impossible for these small coins.

So here you have two coins for the price of one – a *douzain* of Henri II and a *Sol* of Louis XIV. But wait, there's still more! For, while the coin is very clearly dated 1561, the problem here is that Henri II died two years earlier, in 1559! This particular host coin was actually struck under the reign of Charles IX who came to the throne in 1560 and for the first few years of his reign continued to strike coins bearing the name and (for silver and gold issues) portraits of his predecessor! So now you have three coins for the price of one, since it is a Charles IX issue as well!

For collectors of state coppers who think 350-odd varieties of Connecticut are confusing, just consider the implications of this greater *Sol de 15 Deniers* coinage. There are probably 200-250 combinations of date and mintmark for the series; if each date and mintmark is known on all three types of planchets you could have upwards of 700 pieces. If you collected each distinct die variety of the *Sol* – and collected them on all three types of planchets, you would probably be looking (as a rough guess) at perhaps 7,500 individual die varieties and planchet types – and that isn't even including the various counterfeit issues that are known for the series!

Speaking of counterfeits, I will close this article with an illustration of a most charming one for the *Sol de 15 Deniers* coinage. This crude contemporary counterfeit purports to be an issue of 1693 from the "9" [Rennes] Mint but it is actually struck on a rolled out *Double Tournois*, made of copper, and which had a face value of just 2 *Deniers*. An enterprising counterfeiter could substantially profit by successfully circulating it at the 15 *Denier* value in France – but was far more likely to try and get it to Canada where these later circulated at the still-further inflated value of 18 *Deniers*. It would be far easier to pass such a crude issue in an area where coins were scarce. Interestingly, the counterfeiter here did exactly what the King of France did – he took a lower-valued coin (of even lower intrinsic worth), struck it with new dies and circulated it at great profit to himself! The only difference was that the King could do it and put the funds towards the building of Versailles, while the counterfeiter risked being hanged by the neck if he were caught! It's Good to be King!



FIGURE 3. Crude contemporary counterfeit *Sol de 15 Deniers*, struck on a rolled-out *Double Tournois* worth only 2 *Deniers*!

2011 – FIRST QUARTER COLONIAL AUCTION RECAP

(John Agre)

It's been a pretty interesting first three months of the year in the world of colonial coin auctions, with significant offerings from Stack's and Heritage, an interesting piece or two at Bowers and Merena, and an assortment of coins on ebay ranging from the fairly typical (i.e. a ton of Chinese copies), to the pretty nice (lots of contemporary counterfeits and an occasional attractive type coin) to the (almost) once-in-a-lifetime-coin-you-never-expected-to-see-anywhere, let alone on ebay.

Fortunately, your author attended all of the live sessions in person, bidding, watching, taking copious notes, kibitzing and availing himself of the free food (which in many cases was delicious) and can now spew forth with observations.

So let's begin at the beginning, with the Heritage FUN auctions on January 3rd with the "Signature" session (for coins valued at roughly \$1,500 to \$10,000). And it was an interesting auction, which brought prices that were frankly all over the map:

Lot #3004, a lovely, original, evenly struck Pine Tree Small Planchet Shilling of the common Noe-29 variety, brought a strong \$3,450 for the grade. That was a far better than average example, and the demand for Mass silver of this look is as high as ever.

Lot #3006, a nice looking Newman 6-F American Plantation Token in an AU58 PCGS holder brought a healthy \$4,312.50, the latest (at that time) in a series of strong performances by American Plantation die varieties at auctions.

Lot #3017, a 1670-A French Colonies 5 Sols in an MS62 PCGS holder brought a staggering (to me) \$19,550. I say staggering because that same coin brought exactly half that amount (\$9,775) when it last sold at Heritage just two short years ago in May of 2008.

But while that piece appreciated nicely, not everything in the next night's Platinum Night session (earmarked for coins valued at roughly \$10,000 and up) followed the same trajectory:

Lot #5402, a New Yorke Token graded F15 by PCGS sold for "just" \$18,400, well less than the \$32,200 this same piece brought at that same Heritage auction in May of 2008. Ouch.

Lot #5403, a 1787 New York Excelsior Copper enthusiastically graded AU55 by PCGS (despite a square dig in the central reverse) sold for \$34,500. Interestingly, this piece too can be traced to that same May 2008 Heritage sale, but this one went up since that time, having sold for \$29,900 2.5 years ago.

Lot #5407, the New York Theatre Token graded PF64 by PCGS, went the other way, selling for \$32,200 compared to the \$40,250 it brought in 2008, but exactly the

same as the \$32,200 this frequently traded item brought a year earlier at Heritage in August 2007.

But that wasn't as exciting as lot # 5408, the Washington Roman Head Cent in a PF61 PCGS holder. By my count this is the 5th different example of this type to come to market since May 2004. And many readers will remember this coin when it was first offered in a November 2005 Smythe sale, described extreeeeemly optimistically as "Gem Proof", offered uncertified, where it brought (if memory scrves) in the low \$40K's (signaling the first run-up of this type from its historical level). Then it came to Heritage in 2008 and brought a very, very robust \$92,000. Which brings us to the present session, where it brought "only" \$66,125 (a 28% decline in 2.5 years). I guess one can at least say that this was a better deal for the buyer than the guy who won it in 2008.

I don't know what to conclude about this session in general other than to say that a number of these coins seem to have traded quite frequently in recent years, with a great deal of volatility.

The next session of note would be held by Bowers and McCreary, also in Tampa, containing just 15 colonials, but with one notable piece:

Lot #59, a Sommer Islands Twopence graded AG3 by PCGS, realized \$18,400, which I guess represents the most affordable version of one of these coins in a PCGS holder (a mandatory requirement for a lot of monied buyers these days).

The next auction of note would be a few weeks later at Stack's with their Americana session, and though it was held in a blizzard (as was well documented on our website) most of the usual suspects were in attendance, either in person, or via representative, including at least one well known colonial dealer who made it with literally seconds to spare before his first target lot came up.

The first really interesting lot was the first colonial, lot #5801, a genuinely attractive Willow Tree Shilling that was, according to the catalog, found by a metal detectorist in a Massachusetts farm field (which sounds suspiciously like my yard), brought \$43,125 to a book bid and was sold seemingly before anyone could blink.

Lot #5805, an American Plantation Token 4-D variety described as a die combination "whose existence is not confirmed" in the Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial & Early American Coins (which I found confusing, since this particular example has been known and was described accurately, as noted in the current catalog, in another auction 38 years ago) brought \$25,300 (a new public auction record for any coin in this series).

Lot 5836, a rare Virginia Penny in what might be the most affordable condition possible (cleaned, with some surface business) brought a very strong \$17,250 on the floor. That was not too far below the price of some pretty choice examples in recent years.

Lot #5838, the newly discovered Pitt Farthing in abjectly original (i.e., crusty as all get out) AU55 with full silvering and the best one I have ever personally seen (though there is an UNC which was curiously not mentioned by the current cataloger) brought what I thought was a fair \$94,875 to the bidder noted above who showed up just in time.

And then the state coppers started, featuring a lot of collector grade coins with minor and not-so-minor problems, including a long list of NJ coppers in low grade that realized roughly \$100 to \$300 (with the low point being lot #5936 at \$23 (twenty-three) all-in. I do not know what the consignor had paid for all these coins back in the day, but I assume they were bargains. I could not help but thinking, though, that if he had spent just a little more, and acquired pieces with better color and surfaces, they would have sold for many (possibly many-many) multiples of those prices in this session. However, a handful of his rarities did plenty well enough to carry the day, and, in total, I am sure this set proved to be a very good investment through the years.

Lot #5956, a Maris 37-X NJ, considered to be Rarity-7, and frankly a pretty decent looking F/VF which I believe the consignor cherry-picked years ago, brought \$17,250. Lot #6016, a Maris 83-ii variety, also R-7 and described as the "7th finest of 9 known" (though with a look only a mother could love) brought \$18,400 to another specialist.

Which led us to the Machin's Mills coinage, where lot #6051, a newly discovered unique variety in well worn but not-unattractive condition brought a very strong \$40,250 to another specialist.

The next notable auction would *not* be held by a big company, in a large room, and there would be no buffet served. This one would be on ebay, where a formerly unique New Jersey Maris 18-L suddenly appeared on January 30th, completely out of the woodwork, previously unknown, but (and here's the kicker) correctly attributed on a 35+ year-old ANACS grading certificate, and housed in a PCGS VF35 holder. Also, and just as surprisingly, it looked attractive (which, in my experience, is not the norm for rare things that just sort of pop up). And, as has been reported extensively in the trade press and numismatic chatrooms, it did very, very well, running from its \$995 starting bid up to \$50K+ over the next week, jumping to \$71K in the late stages and then, finally, to the nice round winning number of \$105,655.55 in the final seconds. My view is that that's probably about what it would have brought in any venue (or at least any venue where the major players knew about it – which was definitely the case here). This was a significant enough event that it found its way to the cover of Coin World, which is infrequent territory for things colonial.

And then we were back to catalogs, and podiums and auctioneers and stuff, this time at the Heritage Long Beach auction which had some more notable pieces in it:

Lot #3001, a Noe-7 Oak Tree Shilling in a VF30 PCGS holder, brought \$7,475.00, which is a fair bit more than the \$5,577.50 this same coin brought when sold

raw at Stack's in March of 2010, even though Stack's graded it higher, EF40, as a raw coin. I think there is a moral to that story, which is that PCGS slabbed material tends to bring more money even when the grades are more conservative.

Lot #3011, a 1788 Connecticut Miller 1-1 in a F15 ANACS holder brought \$6,900. That coin was micro-porous, and would not have been graded that high at PCGS (for those who care about such things), but it still seemed pretty cheap compared to some of the less attractive examples that have sold in recent years.

Lot #3014, yet another Washington Roman Head Cent in a PF64 PCGS holder sold for \$100,625 to an internet bidder, which is just a bit less than this same piece brought at Stack's last summer.

Lot #3018, a not very original looking 1794 Talbot Allum & Lee Cent in a PCGS PF65 RB holder brought over \$10,000, which seemed like a lot of money to me.

Lot #3019, a hash lot of 19 pieces evidently group lotted because the catalogers deemed it nothing special, actually contained some choice Machin's Mills pieces and sold for \$3,737.50 to a well-known dealer. I would guess one of the Machin's alone might end up bringing that much on the aftermarket.

So what can we conclude about the first quarter? Several things, I think;

1. Even in the absence of a Ford-style mega-sale, or even a Keller-style giant collection like we saw last fall, there are plenty of interesting coins coming to market and seemingly ample demand to absorb them all.
2. You just never know what will turn up, where.
3. The market for rare die varieties across all series seems to be as strong as ever.
4. Common variety state coppers in F to AU with choice color and surfaces are very strong, while pieces with less than ideal surfaces and/or unattractive color seem to be selling for about what they brought 10 years ago (maybe 20).
5. It does seem from my perspective that PCGS-slabbed colonials are pretty much universally bringing more at auction than raw pieces or coins holdered by other services.
6. The venues where raw colonials can be sold are rapidly dwindling. With the merger of Bowers and Merena and Stack's, I believe this trend is likely to accelerate in the future (the near future, such as Q2, for example). But we'll all find out soon enough.

SHEEP HERE, GOATS THERE: SOME DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF GENUINE AND COUNTERFEIT 1724 NEW JERSEY BILLS OF CREDIT

(David D. Gladfelter)

On November 30, 1723, to remedy a "Want of a Medium of Trade or Currency of Money," the Provincial Legislature of the Royal Colony of New Jersey enacted a law providing for issuance of £40,000 worth of indented hills of credit in eight denominations, to be dated March 25, 1724, and to "be Signed, Numbred and Indented by *John Parker, Peter Bard, Robert Lettis Hooper, Esqrs. and Mr. James Trent*, or any three of them."¹

These New Jersey hills were to be the last of the indented design, which had been issued on three previous occasions. This "tall" design was changed to the more familiar horizontal layout in the next series of bills issued in 1728. The March 25 date of issue was the first day of the year in the Julian calendar then in use.

The 1724 issue established the standard denominations of hills of credit to be used consistently in colonial New Jersey until 1776: 1s, 1s6d (or 18d), 3s, 6s, 12s, 15s, £1/10 (or 30s), and £3. The act specified only that the denominations be valued in "pounds proclamation,"² New Jersey's official money of account, which was valued at 6 shillings per ounce of sterling silver. However, on the printed hills, the value in "Jersey light money" was also shown; this value was at 8s per ounce and represented an unofficial, widely accepted inflated value at which the bills actually circulated. This double value standard continued on the next two or three issues of hills of credit and was then dropped. A new £6 denomination was added in the issues of 1728 and thereafter.

The 1724-dated bills were issued, but their intended 12-year circulating life was cut short by the importation of counterfeits from Ireland. The counterfeits were so numerous and deceptive that the Provincial Legislature called in the genuine bills and directed that the Treasurers of the eastern and western divisions of the colony exchange them for new ones. On February 10, 1727/28³ the Legislature authorized £24,760 worth of new hills to be printed with the date March 25, 1728. The prime purpose of this new issue was to replace the 1724-dated hills. A recital in the act authorizing the 1728 issue stated that "it has been discover'd that Counterfeits have been made in *Ireland*, for several Thousand Pounds of the said Bills, Part whereof have been brought to, and passed in the Neighbouring Provinces by some of the Accomplices in the said Counterfeiting, for which some of them have been severely punished, which Accomplices have confessed that many Thousand Pounds more of the said Counterfeits were to be brought over to the Neighbouring Provinces by others of their Accomplices."⁴ Despite the stated legislative purpose, the authorized £24,760 worth of new 1728 hills would have been insufficient to redeem the £40,000 worth of old hills authorized in 1724, had they all been issued. It

follows that less than the full authorized amount would have been actually issued in 1724.

When presented with 1724-dated bills to be exchanged for those dated 1728, the Provincial Treasurers would have been easily able to distinguish the genuine ones from the Irish counterfeits by matching the indented bills with their stubs. Only genuine bills would match, because such a bill and its stub would have been cut from the same piece of paper. But today we no longer have the stubs to match with the bills. How, then, to tell the sheep from the goats among the few remaining survivors?⁵

Only five of the eight authorized denominations of 1724-dated bills were counterfeited, according to Eric P. Newman's treatise.⁶ Accepting that as fact, it follows that bills of the remaining three denominations would be presumed genuine. A bill of the 15s denomination, which per Newman was not counterfeited, is known and is illustrated here (Figure 1) as an example of a genuine bill.

A bill of the 6s denomination was in the John J. Ford, Jr. collection (part III, lot 684). The cataloguer concluded that this bill was most likely an Irish counterfeit, without explanation, other than to say that it appeared to him inferior in quality to the 12s plate specimen in the 4th edition of Newman.⁷ Although the 12s denomination was also counterfeited, let us presume, for purposes of this article, that the Ford specimen is a counterfeit. It is also illustrated here, (Figure 2) courtesy of Krause Publications.

What conclusions can we draw by viewing these two specimens side by side? Differences can be found by comparing them, to indicate that they would have come from different print shops. Here are a few observations:

- The middle horizontal lines of the capital letters "E" in the word INDENTED are longer on the "genuine" bill, and on the 12s plate specimen in the 4th edition of Newman, than on the "counterfeit."
- The loops of the lower case letters "g" of the regular font are approximately equal in size on the "counterfeit," but on the "genuine" the top loop is smaller.
- The woodcut at the top of the "genuine" bill incorporates the double valuations into the design, as does the 12s plate specimen in the 4th edition of Newman, but that on the "counterfeit" bill does not.
- The indentation on the "genuine" bill is more pronounced than that on the "counterfeit."
- The animals on the royal arms of the "counterfeit" look emaciated compared with those on the "genuine."

- The triangular portion of the numeral 4 in the date is smaller on the “genuine” bill than on the “counterfeit” and the numeral is shaped differently.

- The overall appearance of the “genuine” bill has an “American” look, while the “counterfeit” does not. It is hard to explain this “look” with precision, but to me the “look” is one of relative unsophistication. For example, some of the letters on the “genuine” bill show ink fill where dust or fibers have collected on the type surfaces, similar to filled letters made with a typewriter in need of cleaning. The “counterfeit” looks “slick” in comparison.

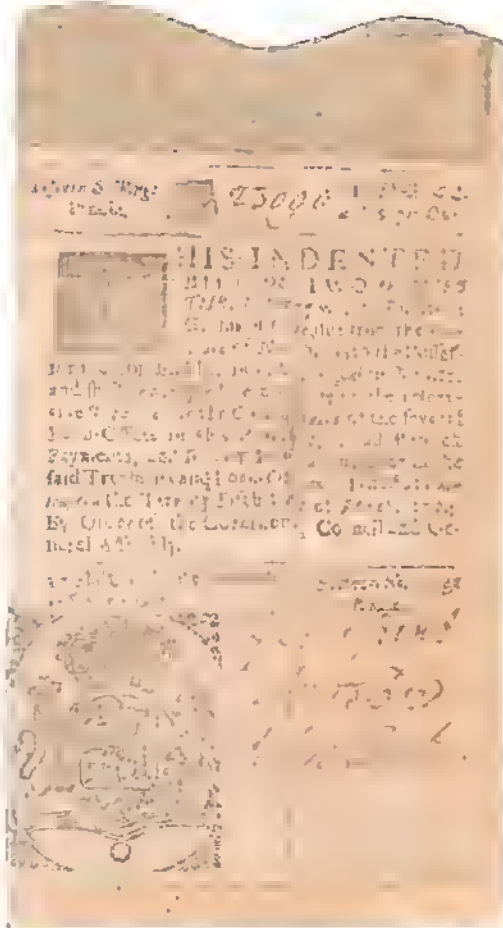


Figure 1. The 15 Shilling Genuine Bill

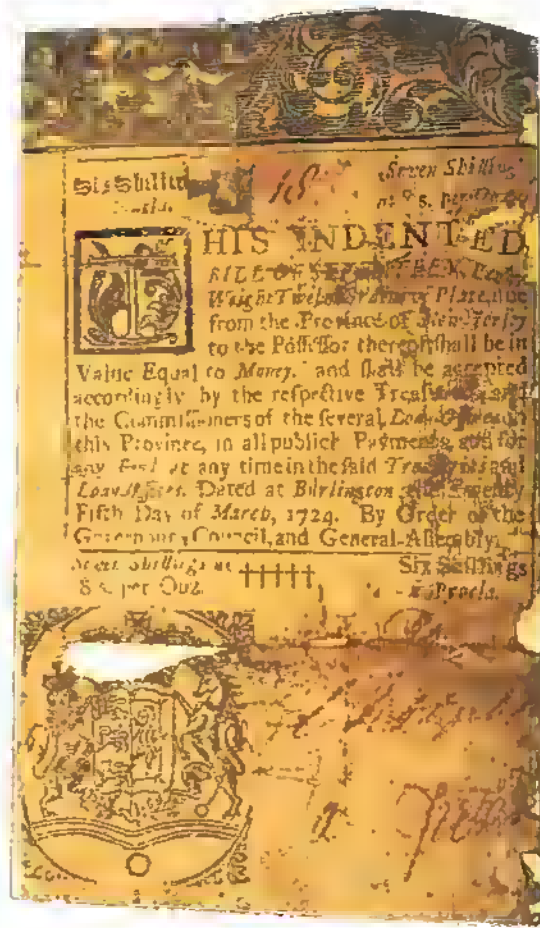


Figure 2. The 6 Shilling Counterfeit Bill

Other differences will be apparent on detailed examination. For example, there are differences in the punctuation and capitalization of the text of the obligation on the two bills.

What might settle the matter of genuineness would be to submit the bills to a questioned document examiner for analysis. This would require obtaining known genuine signatures of Messrs. Parker, Bard, Hooper and Trent for comparison with the

questioned signatures. It should not be difficult to obtain the known signatures because the signers were prominent persons within the colony. For example, James Trent was the son of William Trent, founder of Trenton, the capital of New Jersey, whose house stands today.

KNOWN SURVIVING SPECIMENS FROM THE 1724 ISSUE⁸

Denom.	Status	Source
3s	Unknown	New York Public Library coll.
3s	Unknown	Philadelphia collector, 1865, per Henry Phillips, fn. 1, page 66 (same specimen as preceding?)
6s	Unknown	American Antiquarian Society coll.
6s	Cft.	Ford 3:684, ex Boyd, Chapman. Newman plate 5 th ed.
6s	Cft.	Heritage Jan. 2010 lot 12123, ex Dupont lot 2090
12s	Genuine	Newman plate 4 th ed.
12s	Unknown	New York Public Library coll. (same specimen as preceding?)
15s	Genuine	Early American Aug. 2009 lot 496, ex Max Rabe

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Laws of the Royal Colony of New Jersey, 1703-1745, New Jersey Archives, Third Series, Volume II (Trenton, New Jersey State Library, Archives and History Bureau, 1977), 301.
- ² By proclamation of Queen Anne in 1704, the Spanish dollar could not pass in the American colonies for more than 6 shillings per ounce, a value one-third higher than sterling, which was valued at 4s6d per ounce. All colonial legislation required Crown approval; therefore, paper currency issued prior to independence had to comply with the foregoing proclamation. The double value standard printed on the bills was a reality check which the Crown doubtless would have disapproved of, had it but known.
- ³ The date February 10 in the month preceding March 25, 1728 in the Julian calendar was called February 10, 1727. That same date (later adjusted by 11 days) in the Gregorian calendar would be February 10, 1728. In historical references, dates in both calendars are sometimes given to avoid confusion.
- ⁴ Laws, op. cit., 355.
- ⁵ A list of known 1724-dated New Jersey bills of credit, both genuine and counterfeit, is appended. Please report any additional examples to me through the editor of this periodical.
- ⁶ The Early Paper Money of America, 5th ed. (Iola, WI., Krause Publications, 2008), 249. Denominations listed as having been counterfeited are 1s6d, 3s, 6s, 12s and £3.
- ⁷ (Iola, WI., Krause Publications, 1997), 245.
- ⁸ Thanks to Eric Newman for his assistance in compiling this census.

2011 C4 MEMBER SURVEY SUMMARY

(Jack Howes)

I was pleasantly surprised at how many people returned surveys – 106, which is quite a high percentage of the members. I heard from many more people than I see in Boston in the Fall! Surveys rarely get this high a return rate as percentage of a population. Though the next time we do something like this it will need to be on-line -- too much manual data entry!

There were some design issues with this survey, probably the biggest issue was a lack of a category for “Colonial Type” collector. Many people wrote that in the “other” category or wrote a note to that effect. I actually think most collectors go through phases – a person got interested in one or two areas, when that interest was exhausted, moved on to other areas, and so on, eventually becoming a type collector.

But there are other profiles, e.g., if you only checked one box (eight people did this), you are pretty focused – likely someone writing a book or a researcher. Buell Ish selected only New Jersey’s! I know for a fact that Buell owns some other colonials but has been very focused on the New Jersey coinage for some time and is the third author of the upcoming text on the New Jersey State Coinage. Another person, Chester Sullivan, selected only Castorland Demi Ecu’s and indicated he was writing a book on this coinage and suggested that a better name for them is Castorland Jetons. The title of the book is, “The Castorland Jetons, La Compagnie de New York, and the Metallic Money Crisis of 1790s France.”

There were some members who checked every box. I always got a note with these apologizing for marking so many boxes. No problem – knock yourself out! We should have had categories for a number of more areas – contemporary counterfeits to name but one. All of the write-in categories have been added and are in the summary tables in bold.

While there were directions on the survey, “**please indicate your areas of primary interest,**” people interpreted this in different ways: some checked things they were interested in, some checked only what they had in their collection, some tried to differentiate what they had from what they were primarily interested in and some indicated levels of interest. This means we have to be careful drawing too many conclusions from this data set.

Many of the more interesting things I learned from this process (and I have to say its been very interesting) are:

- How people returned the survey (we gave no direction here): I got taped, stapled, taped and stapled and many were returned in an separate envelope. It was quite amusing to see what the post office does with stapled stuff these days, I got one that had been torn to bits by their sorter delivered in a special post office envelope!
- About 20% of the replies were in envelopes -- very precise group, I liked this method best.
- Many people were really happy C4 was interested in what they think.
- One person called me and spent an hour on the phone with me [I signed him up as a speaker for our Fall Convention!].
- On many surveys, people wrote notes, and I will follow up on all of these.
- No category remained unchecked.

In summary, the C4 members were very interested in discussing their collecting interests. It's clear from the data that about half of the members specialize (7 or fewer areas of interest) and about one third are really colonial type collectors. Now because of the way people responded, the number of type collectors could be much larger than this. There are also a number of individuals who are type collectors but also specialize in one or more individual series.

Vermont's were the single most checked category followed closely by Connecticut and New Jersey coppers. In fact New Jersey coppers were ahead until the last few surveys!

Summary of C4 Member Questionnaire

Order on Sheets			Specialized Collectors		
Total Responses	106				
Vermont Coppers	67	63%	Selected One	8	
Connecticut Coppers	83	59%	Selected Two	9	
New Jersey Coppers	61	58%	Selected Three	5	
Fugios	52	49%	Selected Four	8	
Mass Silver	49	46%	Selected Five	7	
Nova Constellatio	42	40%	Selected Six	3	
Machin's Mills	39	37%	Selected Seven	11	
Mass Copper	37	35%	Total <= 7	51	48%
Colonial Paper	37	35%			
Washingtonia	34	32%	Type Collectors		
Spanish American Issues	34	32%	Selected more than 12	36	34%
St. Patricks	31	29%			
French American	30	28%			
Nova Eborac	27	25%			
Voce Populi	25	24%			
Rosa Americana	24	23%			
Wood's Hibernias	23	22%			
Higley Coppers	22	21%			
Talbot, Allum & Lee	23	22%			
Virginia Halfpence	20	19%			
Continental Dollars	20	19%			
Bar Coppers	19	18%			
Bette Medals	19	18%			
Contemporary Counterfeits	20	19%			
New Hampshire Copper	16	15%			
Colonial Ephemera & Lit	15	14%			
Vernon & Other Medals	14	13%			
Colonial Type	14	13%			
Elephant Tokens	14	13%			
New York Patterns	13	12%			
Chalmers	13	12%			
Rhode Island Ship Tokens	13	12%			
North American Tokens	14	13%			
Patterns of 1792	13	12%			
Sommers Islands	12	11%			
Confederates	12	11%			
Auctori Plebis	13	12%			
Kentucky Pyramid	12	11%			
Plantation 1/24 Real	11	10%			
Caribbean Coinage	11	10%			
Gastonia Jetons	10	9%			
Northwest Tokens	10	9%			
Early Communion Tokens	9	8%			
Franklin Press	8	8%			
English Regal pre 1783	8	8%			
Lord Baltimore	7	7%			
Mott Tokens	7	7%			
Texas Joes	8	8%			
Canadian Tokens (pre Confederation)	7	7%			
Other Foreign Circ.	7	7%			
Standlee Barry	8	6%			
Early Minting Technology	8	6%			
New York Tokens	5	5%			
Pitt Tokens	5	5%			
Spanish Florida	5	5%			
Gloucester Tokens	4	4%			
Myddleton Patterns	4	4%			
Theatre at New York	3	3%			
Indian Peace Medals	3	3%			
18th Cent Foreign Gold	3	3%			
Condor Tokens	2	2%			
Counterstamped	2	2%			

THE SILVER COINS OF MASSACHUSETTS BY CHRISTOPHER J. SALMON

(Richard August)

I would highly recommend this new book on Massachusetts silver. The photos (with large blow-ups for seniors like me) are excellent. The additional photos of the actual new varieties discovered since Noe are helpful. The discussion on minting practices is quite good. The organization and sequence of the striking of the various dies is wonderful.

However, I find a few things that could have helped too make this book even better. I think the author could have been helped by contacting serious collectors of Massachusetts silver (of which there are several) and others who have experience in this field for 30 – 50 years or more. Some specific points are:

1. I think it would have been nice to show pictures or diagrams of the various minting machines and dies.

2. Since many collectors collect Mass silver by die states, I feel it would have been very important to document these die states.

3. Some of the varieties questioned by the author, I feel, would be strongly accepted by others:

- 3-X should not have its weight of 36.1 grains count against it, as many shillings are known to be overweight. Nor should the inner circle of dots count against it. To me the coin looks absolutely good.

- I feel 3-X and 4-X are more than likely authentic. They look to me like a die cutter on the cusp on making an Oak or a Pine.

- 10-X looks absolutely good to me.

- I would not have labeled 13-X, 14-X, and 15-X with an ignominious X (but maybe a C). While these coins are clearly not mint products of the colony, they are colonial period products (1690-1790) and most likely c. 1750. Terranova says there is a period newspaper referring to counterfeiting of Mass silver, and Newman documents this newspaper report in a COAC article.

4. Other counterfeits listed I would label with X as they are of much later manufacture than circulating Mass silver. To this, it would have been nice if the author had added additional listings and photos of known, more recent counterfeits such as Wyatt. This would help collectors to not get duped.

WHAT ARE COLONIAL COINS AND HOW SHOULD WE CLASSIFY THEM?

(Peter Jones)

"When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in a rather scornful tone "it means just what I choose it to mean." So how shall we define a colonial coin?

Colonial coins are metallic pieces made for, or used in, American circulation, or speculative issues proposed as such. They could also include common silver and gold trade coins, but should not include every single foreign coin or copper that could have passed in colonial America. Pieces made under governmental authority are called coins, pieces without it are called tokens.

Another question is whether colonial coins should include medals or medalets with some reference to Colonial America but which did not circulate in Colonial America. Many of us would exclude Betts medals and many Conder pieces from colonial coinage, although the C4 Focus and Purpose statement includes coins, tokens, currency, and medals. It also includes some issues into the first half of the nineteenth century.

The most popular way of deciding what is a colonial coin is to examine the lists of others. Another way is to make your own list, which is what many collectors end up doing. This has the advantage that one can omit coins that are too expensive or unavailable (or as the EAC pundits call it "NC" or non-collectible). Harold MacMillan, UK prime minister, once pointed out that education is the ability to tell what is rot and what is not. We need to look beyond the Redbook to decide for ourselves what is colonial and what is not colonial.

First I will deal with the classification of colonial coins, and then which coins should be included in a collection. Colonial coins are certainly difficult to classify. Life would be so much simpler if we collected federal circulating coinage, whose classification is so much simpler. The next page shows the classification schemes of a number of authors on colonial coinage.

Some common themes emerge from different authors' classifications:

- Sequential listings are often used but this makes for a certain lack of clarity in thinking.
- Certain classes seem to be commonly grouped by many authors, e.g. French colonial, State coppers, Washingtonia.
- Several authors include country or commodity money, and certainly the Red Book refers to this in the first paragraph on "Money of the Early Americans."

Crosby 1875

- Sequential miscellany (Sommer, Virginia, Mass silver, Maryland, Canada 1670, St. Patrick, Rosa)
- State
- Fugio
- Patterns and tokens
- American tokens
- Washingtonia

1947 Red Book

- Miscellany sequential, (Sommer, Massachusetts silver, Maryland, St. Patrick, Wood, French, State coppers)
- Tokens and Patterns
- American Tokens struck in America or England by order of American Merchants
- Anglo-American Tokens
- Miscellaneous Tokens
- Washingtonia
- Fugio

Vlack 1965

- Sequential (Mass Silver Maryland, St. Patrick Holt, Elephant, Rosa Hibernia, NY token Gloucester, Higley Voce, Pitt, Virginia)
- French
- Castorland
- State

- Early US Currency (Continental dollar, Nova, Immunis, Confederatio, Fugio)
- Miscellaneous (Rhode Island 1778 to Theater at New York 1797)
- Washingtonia

Scott's 1971

- Sequential (Massachusetts silver, Maryland, Holt, Elephant, French, Woods, Higley, Virginia, Chalmers, Triumpho, Bar, Constellatio)
- State coinage
- Miscellaneous early tokens
- Early tokens of ? attribution
- Quasi colonial
- Washingtonia
- Fugio

Breen Encyclopedia 1988

- British Autonomous
- British Royal Authorized
- Pre Revolutionary Imports
- Pre Revolutionary local
- French
- State
- New York State coins
- Post Revolutionary Private
- Continental Dollars
- Morris Nova patterns

- Proposed Confederate
- Miscellaneous imports
- Church tokens
- Washingtonia

Mossman 1993

- Commodity and country money
- Massachusetts and Maryland Silver
- Colonial paper
- Copper change (British and counterfeit, hogge, Holt, evasion, St Patrick, Wood, Voce, Ireland, other)
- Revolutionary (Continental dollar and currency, Pitt token)
- Confederation Coinage (State, Constellatio, Fugio, Washingtonia, Immunis, Mott, Chalmers, Barry)
- 1789 Copper panic

Jordan/Notre Dame 1998

- Money substitutes
- Coins made in colonies before 1750
- Spanish circulating
- Dutch Circulating
- British Circulating
- French
- Late colonial coppers
- Revolutionary war coins
- 1783 American coins
- Confederation Private coppers 1785-7
- Confederation patterns

- The American Revolution is a dividing line for many, though Nipper makes another division with the peace of Paris (1763). The Federal period begins in 1789 but for coinage could begin with the U.S. Mint in 1793 (or 1792 if you wish to start with the early Mint patterns).
- Trade coins of other countries may be considered as circulating colonial coinage; here again the Red Book mentions this in the first paragraph on "Money of the Early Americans."
- Some include paper money, but to be fair that should be broken out as a different subject.
- Tokens, coins, and medals are all included.
- Locally made versus imported coinage is another method of classification.
- British authorized versus British unauthorized is another division.
- "This shouldn't be in the Red Book" is a common refrain, so a separate class might be used called "little or not used."
- French colonial coins seem to be disregarded. They are cast aside as "French Canada," but "French Canada" was Louisiana which after the Louisiana Purchase became part of America. Coins that circulated in French Louisiana in colonial times should rightly be considered American colonial coins.

Any classification should not be overcomplicated, and synthesizing all these considerations together, I propose the following:

1. Royal Authorized money
 - a. British
 - b. French
2. Colonial Tokens produced before 1792 excluding state and proposed federal
 - a. locally produced
 - b. imported
3. State coinage including New York issues
4. Proposed and actual Federal coinage
5. Washingtonia
6. Optional Colonial collectibles
 - a. Commodity and country money
 - b. Little or never used pieces in colonial America
 - c. Conder Tokens relating to America
 - d. Tokens made after 1792 thus not colonial
 - e. Common silver and gold trade coins

In keeping with this system, I propose the following tentative colonial list, not to be definitive and dogmatic, but to stimulate discussion.

1 a. Royal Authorized - British

- 1659 Maryland
- 1688 Holt
- 1722 - 3 Rosa Americana
- 1722 – 1724 Wood's Hibernia
- 1749 regal halfpenny and farthing
- 1773 Virginia

1 b. Royal Authorized French

- 1640 – 1705 Old Sols
- 1670 French 5 and 15 sols
- 1709 – 1713 French Billon 15 and 30 Deniers Coinage
- 1720 John Law Copper and silver
- 1721-2 Colonies Francoise 9 deniers, Sou
- 1723 – 5 Chameau Treasure coins (authorized but never arrived and circulated)
- 1738 – 1760 French Billon sou and half sou marquee
- 1763 Black dogs, sol tampe over struck billon
- 1767 Copper Sou, Louisiana after 1763 Treaty of Paris

2 a. Colonial Tokens Locally Produced

- 1652 Massachusetts Silver
- 1737-9 Granby or Higley Coppers
- 1783 Chalmers Silver
- 1790 Barry Three pence

2 b. Colonial Tokens Imported

- 1681 St. Patrick
- 1760 Voce Populi
- 1766 Pitt Token
- 1778 Rhode Island Ship Medal
- 1785 Bar Copper

3. State Coinage

- 1776 New Hampshire
- 1776 – 1778 Massachusetts
- 1785 - 1788 Connecticut
- 1785 – 1788 Vermont
- 1786 – 1789 New Jersey
- 1787 New York – Excelsior, Liber Natus, Nova Eborac, Machins Mills, Clinton, Brasher Doubloons

4. Proposed and Actual Federal Coinage

- 1776 Continental Currency
- 1783 – 5 Morris' Nova Constellatio patterns and Wyon's Constellatio Nova coppers
- 1785 - 6 Wyon's Confederatio pieces (Inimica Tyranis, Gen Washington & Immunis)
- 1785 Wyon's Immune Columbia and 1787 Immunis Columbia
- 1786 Atlee's Non Vi Virtute coppers
- 1786 – 7 Mould & Bailey's E Pluribus Unum Rev Patterns (Obverse W'ton & Confed)
- 1787 Fugios

5. Washingtonia (several are Conder tokens)

6. Optional Colonial Collectibles

- i. **Commodity and Country Money**
 - a. fur, tobacco, wampum, nails, beaver skins, trade silver, musket balls
- ii. **Little Used Pieces in America**
 - a. 1616 Hogge Money
 - b. 1668 New Yorke Token
 - c. 1694 Elephant tokens
 - d. 1714 Gloucester Token
 - e. 1760 & 1789 Florida 4 reale Proclamatioo pieces
 - f. 1790 Albany Church Penny
- iii. **Conder Tokens relating to America**
 - a. 1787 Auctori Plebis token
 - b. 1792-1795 Kentucky Tokeo
 - c. 1794 Franklin Press tokeo
 - d. 1794 – 1795 Talbot Alum & Lee mulings
 - e. 1794 – 1797 Thomas Paine Tokens
 - f. 1796 Myddeltoo's Kentucky settlemeot and mule Token
 - g. 1798 New York Theater Token
- iv. **Tokens made after 1792 thus not colonial for America**
 - a. 1796 Castorland Medal
 - b. 1818 Texas Jola
 - c. 1820 North West Company/Beaver Tokeo
 - d. 1820 backdated to 1781 North American Token
 - e. ?1807–1839 Mott Tokeo back dated to 1789
- v. **Common Silver and Gold Trade Coins**
 - Spanish pistoles and doubloons, Spanish pillar and bust dollars, Spanish Pistareens (these include Spanish colonial coins)
 - English guineas, English Crown, half crowns, and shillings
 - Dutch Ducats, and Lioo dollars, Rijksdaalders, and Riders
 - French Louis d'or and Ecu
 - Portuguese Joe, half Joe, and Moidore

The colonial period should rightly start with the first settlement in what is now USA (actually Spanish Florida with St. Augustine in 1565) until the establishment of a Federal Mint (1792). Thus the first colonial coins were actually Spanish.

Too little has been made of common silver and gold trade coins that were really the backbone of colonial money outside commodity money and simple coppers for everyday items. Leo Shane has been studying almanacs of the period to see what coins are commonly mentioned in terms of equivalent worth, and has come up with frequency ratings for various foreign silver and gold trade coins.

Another method of selecting coins to collect is by price and rarity. Generally the two go hand in hand. For most therefore the question is not really what is and is not truly colonial, but what can I afford? Along those lines here is a list of some other possible collecting areas that tie into colonial coins:

- Specific colonial areas, e.g. coins of a particular state, Wood's coinage, Washingtonia, Fugios, Machin's Mills pieces, other imitation British copper pieces
- Colonial copies and electrotypes
- Commodity and country money
- Conder tokens with reference to the colonial period
- Common silver and gold trade coins during the colonial era
- Betts medals
- Colonial paper money both state and continental currency
- Colonial fiscal documents
- Signatures of colonial personalities
- Spanish American type set (pre-cobs, cobs and milled)
- Carlos and Jobanna first coins of the New World
- Comitia Americana Medals
- Anderson paper types

Common Silver and Gold Trade Coins

What coins reasonably were commonly used in colonial America for their bullion value? I would like to suggest the following list of 18 coins:

Spanish

- a. pistoles 1537 – 1786 – 2 escudo pieces of Spanish or colonial Spanish origin either cobs and/or milled coinage.
- b. doubloons 1537 – 1786 – 8 escudo pieces of Spanish or Colonial Spanish origin either cobs and/or milled coins
- c. Spanish pillar dollars 1732 – 1772
- d. Spanish bust dollars 1772 – 1822 (Obviously date should be within colonial period though Spanish silver was legal tender until 1857)

- e. Spanish Pistareens – cross 1707 – 1772 (worth 18 cents) or :
- head 1772 on (worth 17 cents)
- f. other Spanish colonial coins are common and optional

English

- f. Guinea Charles II 1663 to George III 1792
- g. Crown Charles II 1662 to George II 1751
- h. Half Crown Charles II 1663 to George II 1751
- i. Shilling Charles II 1663 to George III 1787

Dutch

- a. Ducat gold 1579 – 1805
- b. Lion dalder 1601 – 1698
- c. Rijksdaalder 1591 – 1700
- d. Ridcr (Ducatoon) 1659 – 1798

French

- a. Louis d'or 1640 – 1794
- b. Ecu 1709 – 1792

Portugal or Brazil

- a. Moidore 2,000 Reis 1640 – 1732
- b. Joe 12,800 Reis 1722 – 1835
- c. Half Joe 6,400 Reis 1722 – 1835

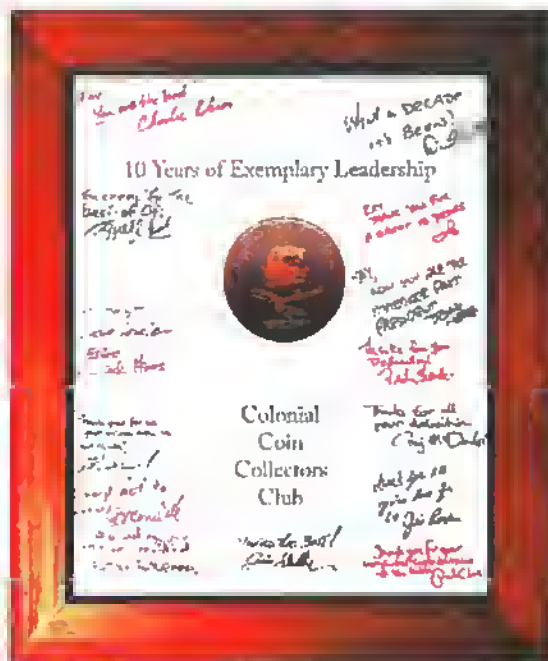
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MESSAGE FROM RAY

(Ray Williams)

Well, here I am. I'm still on the C4 Board by sliding back into the office of "Immediate Past President." Upon becoming president in July 2000, the first thing I did was to get support of the Board and membership to establish the positions of National Vice President and Immediate Past President. The first new office was to have an immediate successor in case the president was unable to continue. The second was to facilitate a smooth "transfer of power" when a new administration entered office. The old president couldn't just walk away and dump things on a new administration, not that that would ever happen. Our transition has occurred in a smooth fashion. I wanted to thank the membership – your gifts mean far more than you might imagine!



Now that I've got a couple months between the convention and writing this, I feel I should have been thanking the membership and giving them a plaque! The 10 years and three months as your president have been quite a ride. I have had so much fun! I've met so many people, made good friendships, been included in fascinating research, dabbled a little in writing and editing... I've had experiences that would not have been possible had you not allowed me the privilege of being C4 President. As we wish we could talk to Crosby, Maris, Miller, Ryder, etc... I am friends with today's important collectors & researchers -- ones that future generations will wish they could have talked to.

Let me just say THANK YOU!
Continue to HAVE FUN!
Your friend, Ray

Joseph R. Lasser

September 25, 1923 – January 17, 2011

On January 17, 2011, the international numismatic community lost a titan with the passing of Joseph “Joe” Lasser. Far more than just a collector, Joe, with the support of his family, became a prominent scholar, author and philanthropist.

Born in New York City, Joe grew up in a huge, family-packed house in New Rochelle, not far from the home of Julius Gutttag, the famed numismatist of the first half of the 20th century. Working for Gutttag in the mid 1930s, Joe got his first taste of numismatics, and formed his first collection, which was sold a few years later to pay for college.

While at Lehigh University, where he excelled at everything including golf, Joe opted to interrupt his education by joining the Army Air Corps shortly after the United States entered WWII. As a bombardier/navigator in both B-26 “Marauders” and A-26 “Invaders,” Joe completed 41 missions over Europe with the 391st Bomb Group of the 9th Air Force, and was highly decorated for his service.

After the war, he continued his education, started a family with Ruth, his childhood sweetheart, and began a career as a writer for a financial newspaper. Shortly thereafter, Joe changed direction and began what was to become a very successful career as a securities analyst, stockbroker, and portfolio manager.

Joe’s childhood fascination with things numismatic resurged as his young family matured, and he began to collect the paper money of the colonial period, including the Continental Currency issues of the Revolutionary War period. Always brilliant and inquisitive, it was in this area that Joe made his first significant contribution to numismatics. After painstakingly reading through tens of thousands of pages of Continental Congress papers, Joe assembled the universally accepted list of authorized Continental Currency signers that appears in Eric Newman’s *The Early Paper Money of America*.

Shortly thereafter, Joe set out to collect anything and everything that circulated in colonial America, including coins of the world trade. Over the years, the Lasser collection grew in size and scope, and now contains world-class holdings of American colonial material. Areas of great strength include Betts and Indian peace medals, Massachusetts silver coins by die variety, and French, Dutch and Spanish Colonial coins. In the latter category, Joe’s collection of Colombian coins formed the basis his *The Cob Coinage of Colombia* (2000), co-authored with Jorge Restrepo, and now the standard reference on the subject.

Other numismatic publications include *The Coins of Colonial America* (1997) in addition to some two dozen articles appearing in various publications over the past four decades. Further immersing himself into collecting and publishing, he began not only to

lend coins and paper money to museum exhibits, but he began giving them to various North American institutions that had a use for them.

Joe never lost sight of how lucky he was, and his unique circumstances allowed him to assemble a collection few could even dream of doing. A lover of numismatics to the core, he was aware of the value of education, and thus his primary focus shifted from the acquisition of material to sharing it with those inside and outside of the numismatic community.

After a long and difficult search, and with the support of his family, Joe decided that this unique collection could be best “used,” as he put it, by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Today, the Foundation’s multitude of ventures ranging from museum and virtual exhibitions to national educational programs, have found “uses” for the collection that go well beyond what Joe initially imagined. With more than 3600 coins, medals and pieces of paper money, the Lasser collection at Colonial Williamsburg is truly a national treasure.

Joe was predeceased by Ruth, his wife of more than 60 years, in early 2010, but is survived by a wonderful, loving family, including three children and their spouses, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, and countless friends. Although we have lost Joe, he leaves an unparalleled numismatic legacy that is destined to continue so that future generations may enjoy and learn about the money and medals of early America.

As he was so fond of saying, “we continue to learn and move forward.”

Erik Goldstein
Curator of Mechanical Arts & Numismatics
The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
January 2011



Joe Lasser and Erik Goldstein take a break from looking at coins, December 2009.

STEVE TANENBAUM

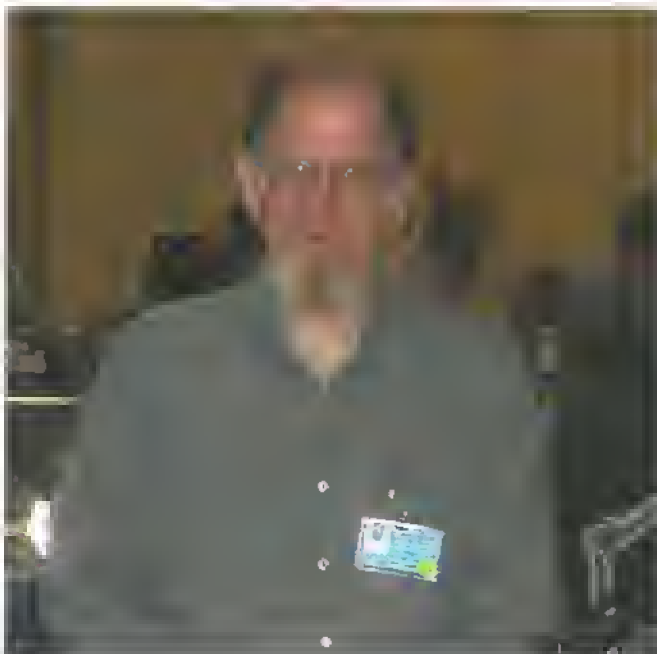
C4 lost longtime member and supporter Steve Tanenbaum on February 11, 2011. Steve was an innocent victim of a crime spree that stretched across New York City, leaving three others dead. He was 62 years old.

Steve was best known in our field for his passionate collecting of American tokens, particularly those of the Civil War era. He served on the board of the Civil War Token Society for years and was Vice President at the time of his death. He was elected to the CWTS Hall of Fame in 2004.

Beyond Civil War tokens, sutlers, and related issues, Steve collected in dozens of area, including colonial coins. Steve chased state coppers by variety, assembling hundreds of varieties of Connecticut, a nearly complete collection of Fugio coppers (including the unique Newman 17-T which he discovered), Washington tokens and medals, and other colonial related tokens. He also enjoyed countermarks, shellcards, and merchant tokens from the obscure to the sublime. There were few area of exonomia that he wasn't deemed an expert in, and few areas of colonial numismatics in particular that Steve did not enjoy and study. From Betts medals to Massachusetts coppers, Steve could talk turkey with enthusiasts in every colonial specialty.

Numismatic study and collecting were perhaps the most important things in Steve's life, but they weren't the only things. He loved baseball. He enjoyed his family, particularly his nieces and nephews. He had two brothers and a passel of cousins. Steve grew up in Westchester County, New York, then pursued a bachelor's and master's degree at Cornell and an MBA at MIT. He worked for Xerox in Rochester, New York until the early 1980s, when he decided to pursue his lifelong love of numismatics and make it a full time career.

In 1978, Steve joined forces with Rich Rossa to form Rossa & Tanenbaum, names that even years later seem to go together like peanut butter and jelly to anyone who attended coin shows in the 1980s and 1990s. Steve and Rich handled a wide variety of tokens, medals, and other numismatic items, including colonial coins. More recently, Steve partnered with Steve Hayden. There are few dealers in the fields of exonomia or colonials with whom Steve didn't do business with, as his knowledge was recognized and his ethics were never questioned.



Steve at a Recent Show

Steve contributed to dozens of numismatic texts and co-authored Whitman's *Guide Book of United States Tokens and Medals* with Hayden and Katherine Jaeger. He was the primary force behind the not-yet-completed update to Fuld's *Civil War Store Cards*. Steve's original research, through directories and periodicals, into token issuers of the 19th century helped re-categorize – on the basis of fact instead of supposition – dozens of American merchant tokens, including a substantial group of new entries into the *Hard Times* token canon.

Steve was a resident of Brooklyn, New York. He was laid to rest in Valhalla, New York on February 16, 2011, as members of his family and friends from the numismatic community looked on. He was a member of the ANA since 1972 and C4 since 1994, the year of its founding.

John Kraljevich

*******ANNOUNCEMENTS*******

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your regional VP or the President of the Club, Jim Rosen. The new provisional members, with their home states, are :

Larry Padar - IL
Frank Sorrentino - NY

CALL FOR CONVENTION SPEAKERS

If you would like to be a speaker at the C4 Convention in Boston this Fall, please send an email to Mike Packard at mikepackard@me.com. The email should include your name, the topic on which you wish to speak and the approximate length of your talk.

Don't want to speak, but itching to find out more about a colonial or confederation-era topic? Contact Mike at the above email address, and tell him what would (or who) you would like to hear. He will see if he can find someone to give a talk on the subject.

Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues

Ray Williams: As you all know, Jim Rosen will become President of C4 in November. There are many things I do in C4 that I do as a member and not as president. These will continue. One of the things I've done as President was to store cases of C4 Newsletters and old C4 Auction catalogs at my bouse. To relieve some of the burden on the incoming President, I have obtained a volunteer to take this on...Wayne Shelby. Wayne has agreed to store the excess newsletters and catalogs at his bouse. People wishing to purchase items that are still available would pay the treasurer. Upon receipt of the money, the Treasurer (Charlie Rorher) will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:



dughistory@juno.com



C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following three books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis, Numismatic Literature, P.O. Box 547, Wenham, MA 01984; Tel: 978-468-2933; Fax: (978) 468 7893; email: numislit@aol.com.

- (1) Jordan, Lou, "John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002.
- (2) Vlack, Robert, "An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004.
- (3) Martin, Sydney. "The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724)," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007.

Hardbound copies of past C4 auction catalogues are available in very limited numbers. If interested, contact Ray Williams or Leo Shane.

The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :
<http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob> .<http://www.forgerynetwork.com/asset.aspx?id=QEjfd5ZR~x~8=>

The Silver Coins of Massachusetts by Christopher J. Salmon

The silver coins of Massachusetts hold a special place in early American numismatics. They were the first coins struck in British North America, a mere generation after the establishment of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Because of their historical importance and charming style, they have prompted rich inquiry among scholars and an intense interest and desire among collectors.

The Silver Coins of Massachusetts is a splendidly illustrated review of these coins, employing the latest historical and numismatic evidence as well as novel scientific analysis. Minting techniques are explored in detail. All varieties of the coinage are newly classified with a consistent yet flexible taxonomic system that lists the varieties in chronological order and can readily accommodate potential future discoveries. The system allows an appreciation for how varieties evolved and the relative degree of change that occurred at each step. It is designed to be as simple as possible without oversimplifying, with all varieties named according to their obverse and reverse dies. The book includes a fully illustrated atlas that details important characteristic features. The last part of the atlas displays each variety at actual size to aid in attribution. Regardless of your specialty, adding a Massachusetts Shilling to your collection is always a welcome event. Consider adding this book to your library. To order, call Megan at ANS with your credit card at 212-571-4470 ext 117.

EAC IN OREGON: The EAC Convention runs May 12-15 at the Doubletree Hotel Lloyd center in Portland, Oregon. This is easily accessible by train directly from PDX airport (easy flight connections and many non-stops from around the country). May is a spectacular time in Oregon...gardens in full bloom so consider bringing your spouse or family...and there is no sales tax on anything (might interest the shopping spouses?) www.eacs.org

Thursday, May 12: 9am-12 Grading seminar
12-5pm Wine tasting tour at the vineyard of an EACer
5-7pm Reception
8-10pm "Colonial Happenings," please bring: 1. New Jersey Head Left (Maris 49-f, 50-f, and 51-g); 2. Late die state colonial coins, any colonial series; any coins showing significant breaks, cracks, cuds, rust.
Friday, May 13: 9-5pm Bourse
12-4pm Lectures including:
"Introduction to forming a New Jersey Type collection," Buell Ish
"Lewis and Clark," John Kraljevich;
"1794s" ANS curator Robert Hoge
Robinson on CQR. A silver talk on cracked planchets,
A silver talk on cuds, and several others. Keynote Friday night
Saturday, May 14: 8:00am C4 meeting
9-5pm Bourse
Sat evening Auction
Optional 4 HR waterfall tour Columbia Gorge....this is a stunning venue if you have never seen it
Sunday, May 15: General membership meeting; adjourn with bourse closed around 3PM

C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

The Library is still interested in getting copies of past auction catalogs that we currently do not have. Thank You to those who have checked their old copies and donated them to the library. There's still room for more. Take a look at the list shown on the club website. Any that are not already in the library are greatly appreciated. Remember, all catalogs that have at least one Colonial will have the colonial section separated and added to the library archive. Catalogs with major colonial content will be retained in their entirety.

Below are new items donated to the club since the last C4 Newsletter. They are available for loan to any C4 member. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on borrowing them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org. Thanks to all who have donated items.

Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:

Mayflower Coin Auctions, *The Milton Leroy Ritter Collection – Canada paper Money Gold Silver and Copper Coins Complete Sets – Wholesale*, 25-26 May 1973, Boston, MA – Donated by Todd Gredesky.

Kleeberg, John M., *Numismatic Finds of the America – An Inventory of American Coin Hoards Shipwrecks Single Finds and Finds in Excavations*, The American Numismatic Society, New York, NY, 2009 – Donated by The American Numismatic Society.

Stacks, *The New York Americana Sale*, 26-27 January 2011, New York, NY - Donated by Stacks.

Breen, Walter, *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of US and Colonial Coins*, FCI Press, New York NY, 1988 – Donated by Ray Williams.

Stacks, *The John L. Roper 2nd Collection of Americana*, 20 March 1984, New York, NY – Donated by Ray Williams.

Stacks, *The John L. Roper 2nd Collection of Colonial & Early American Coins*, 8-9 December 1983, New York, NY - Donated by Ray Williams.

Stacks, *Public Auction Americana Colonial and Federal Coins Medals and Currency – Featuring The William O'Donnell Collection of New Jersey Coppers*, 16-17 January 2001, New York, NY - Donated by Ray Williams.

Stacks, *American Numismatic Association 85th Annual Convention*, 24-28 August 1976, New York, NY - Donated by Ray Williams.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	\$150	\$250	\$325	\$400	6" x 9"
1/2 page	\$115	\$190	\$250	\$300	6" x 4.5"

NOTE: THESE RATES WILL INCREASE BEGINNING WITH VOLUME 18.

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.



Colonial Era Numismatic Collection

I have a nice selection of colonial coins and currency for sale from my personal collection. E-mail your interest and I will send high quality photos, along with the asking price, of what is available.

Gary Trudgen: gtrudgen@stny.rr.com



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I am interested in acquiring counterstamped Rosa Americana coins or photos of them. Unusual examples from this series are always of interest, including mis-struck examples. I'm also seeking unusual edge markings on Kentucky pieces. I will pay top prices for the following New Jersey coppers: 21-R, 24-Q, 44-c, 48-X. Syd Martin: sfmartin5@comcast.net or [REDACTED]

Mahogany Coin Cabinets – Handcrafted from solid mahogany. Cabinets are available with 12, 15, or 18 trays. Trays can be configured with 28 recesses of 1-1/4" diameter, 20 recesses of 1-1/2", or 14 recesses of 2". Custom cabinets also available...contact me to discuss your needs. Prices start at \$325, with **free shipping** for C4 and EAC members. For additional information, images, or to order, visit: www.CabinetsByCraig.oet (note that it's **.net**), or call [REDACTED] or email me at CabinetsByCraig@aol.com.

I have for sale a small number of carefully selected colonial type coins, a fairly large number of Sheldon and Newcomb variety large cents, and an interesting array of numismatic literature. These coins, reference books, and auction catalogues came mostly from our C4/EAC dealer friends, national auctions, and a few cherry-picks. Check it out at www.johodirnbauercoins.com. I encourage you to call me with a trial order to see if you like the high quality, accurate descriptions, and fair prices. Coins sent on approval to C4 and EAC members. I am a long-standing member of ANA, ANS, C4, EAC-571, NBS, and NENA.

John Dirnbauer

Email: john@johnbirnbauercoins.com.

Wanted ORIGINAL Ford Prices Realized Lists for Ford II, Ford III, Ford XV, and Ford XVIII. Willing to pay any reasonable price or trade for other duplicate Ford PRLs I have or other related ephemera like named lists from certain sales.

Please contact Roger Siboni at novacaesarea@yahoo.com.

[illegible]

For sale or trade, Colonial era coins

Ed Sarrafian,

ershye@aol.com

1792 Kleeberg 92B-L10 contemp. counterfeit two reales, nice VF \$750

1752 Spain contemp, counterfeit one real, unlisted date Good-VG \$80

Group lot of three Irish contemp. Counterfeits:: 1/2p 1781-82, VG, one is very crude \$60

1738 Spain one real genuine, VF \$25; 1723-Q France 1/2 sol, VG far rarer than 1723-Q sol, VG \$150

1786 Connecticut M5.8-F, scarcer variety, Good-VG \$50

Please add \$5 postage.

[illegible]

Todd Gredesky

其

email: nitodd7@hotmail.com

William T. Anton Jr. 1992 Reproduction photographs made from the original Stephen Nagy plates of New Jersey copper cent electrotypes.

This is set no. 31 of 100. Signed by William Anton. 5 photos. \$125

Postage \$3

Wanted: Canadian Blacksmith Tokens & Jeffrey Hoare auction catalogs.

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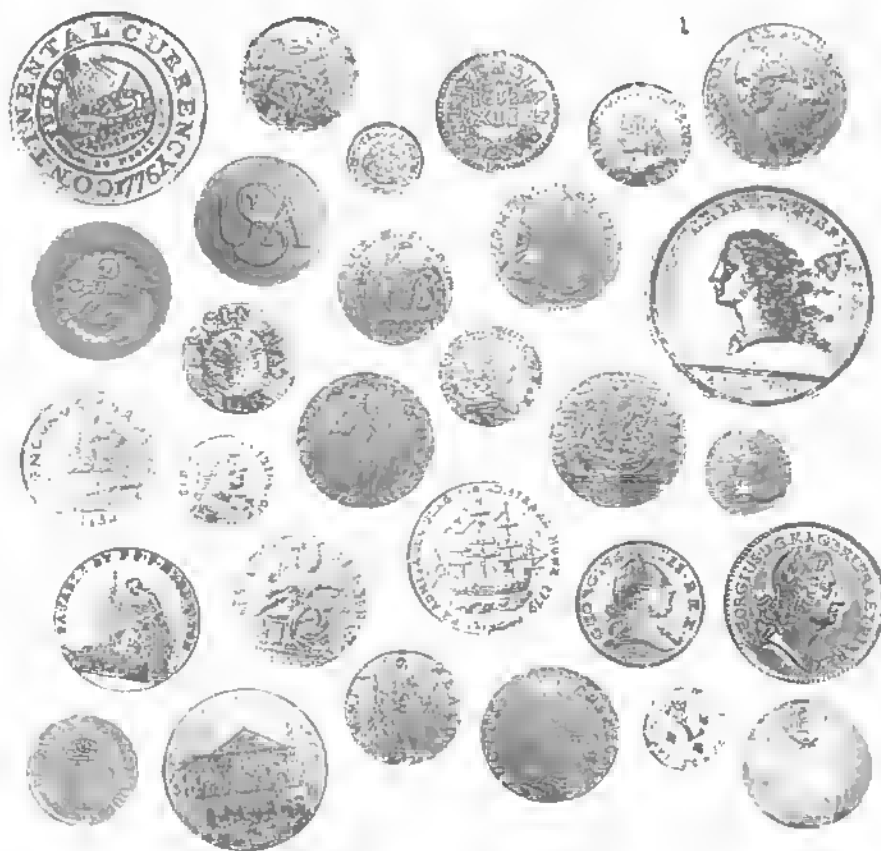
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